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MINUTES OF ORGANIZATION
AND
FIRST ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE
SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC
OF THE
REFORMED CHURCH
IN THE
UNITED STATES.

Held April and October, A. D., 1843.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.,
REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD,
No. 407 Arch Street,
1873

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

CONVENED IN THE

REFORMED CHURCH

OF

FREDERICK CITY, MD., APRIL 18, A. D., 1873.

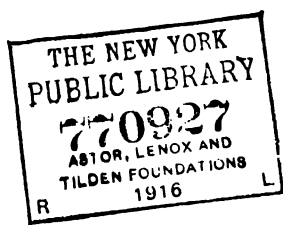
FOR THE PURPOSE OF ORGANIZATION.

PHILADELPHIA :

REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD, No. 907 ARCH STREET.

1873.

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ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac. Convened in the Reformed Church of Frederick City, Md., April 18th, A. D. 1873, for the purpose of organization.

MEETING TO ORGANIZE THE DISTRICT SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES.

The Ministers and delegated Elders of the Classes of Mercersburg, Zion, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, assembled in Convention in the Reformed Church of Frederick City, Maryland, on Friday evening, April 18th, A. D. 1873, at 7½ o'clock, agreeably to the following action of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, convened in Martinsburg, West Virginia, last October:—"The Classes of Mercersburg, Zion, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, as reported by the Committee on Minutes of Classes, requested Synod to take measures to have them organized into a District Synod. It was

Resolved, That the General Synod be requested to organize the Classes of Mercersburg, Zion, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, into a District Synod, as desired by the said Classes;" and to the following action of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, held in the city of Cincinnati, Ohio, last November and December, viz.: "The District Synod in the United States, as reported by the Committee on the Minutes of said Synod, requested the General Synod to organize the Classes of Mercersburg, Zion, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, into a District Synod. It was, on motion,

Resolved, That the request of the Synod in the United States, in regard to the organization of a new District Synod, be granted, and that a Committee be appointed to report to this body, such measures as are necessary in order to effect the new organization.

The Committee consists of Rev. Dr. J. H. A. Bomberger, N. S. Strassburger, Dr. J. O. Miller, and Elders Christian M. Boush and Jacob Smith.

The Committee presented the following report, which was received and adopted:

The Committee appointed to prepare suitable action in regard to the formation of a new Synod, composed of the Classes of Zion, Maryland, Virginia, Mercersburg, and North Carolina, beg leave to report :

1. That all the preliminary, Constitutional and Synodical requirements in the case have been complied with.

2. That the Classes of Zion, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, and Mercersburg, are hereby constituted a Synod, to be known as the — Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States.

3. That the ministers and delegated elders of said Classes, shall meet in convention, in the city of Frederick, Md., on the — day of —, 1873, to organize said Synod, to determine its name, and transact such other business as may properly claim its attention.

4. That the opening sermon on the occasion shall be preached by the Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D. D., of Frederick, who shall also preside at the organization of the Synod.

5. That the time for the organization of the Synod shall be determined by a Committee, consisting of the Rev. Dr. Daniel Zacharias and the Presidents of the several Classes above named, by whom due notice of the time agreed upon shall be given."

And pursuant to the following notice, published in the Reformed Church Messenger of February 19th, 1873, and subsequent issues :

"MEETING FOR ORGANIZATION.

The undersigned hereby notifies the members of the Classes of Zion, Mercersburg, Maryland, Virginia, and North Carolina, that a meeting will be held in Frederick City, Md., on the first Friday after Easter (April 18th), at 7½ o'clock, P. M., for the purpose of organizing a Synod, under the authority granted for that end by the late General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States. The punctual attendance of the ministers of the Classes named, and of the delegated elders from each charge, is requested.

DANIEL ZACHARIAS.

Frederick, Md., Feb. 13th, 1873."

In consequence of the removal by death from the Church militant of the Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D. D., March 31st, A. D. 1873, who had been thus designated by the General Synod, to preach the opening sermon and preside at the organization of — District Synod, the opening sermon was preached by the Rev. J. O. Miller, D. D., of York, Pa., he having been requested to do so by the late Dr. Zacharias, a few weeks previous to his death. The sermon was preached from 1 Cor. 3:11: "For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ."

The Convention was thereupon called to order by the Rev. J. O. Miller. On motion, Rev. J. O. Miller was appointed *President pro*

tempore, and Rev. W. M. Deatrick, *Secretary*. At this stage of the proceedings, a motion was made and carried to adjourn until to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Closed with the doxology and apostolic benediction by the President.

SECOND SESSION.

SATURDAY MORNING, APRIL 19th, 1873.

The Convention met, agreeably to adjournment last evening, at 9 o'clock this morning. The session was opened with singing, and prayer by the President.

The minutes of last evening's session were read and approved.

The roll was then formed, and the following ministers and delegated elders were found to be in attendance, viz: *from the Classis of Zion*, Rev. Jacob Sechler, Jacob O. Miller, D. D., William K. Zieber, William R. H. Deatrick, Jacob D. Zehring, James Crawford, Lewis D. Steckel, and elders Israel Laucks, John H. Yost, J. P. Hassler, George Hoobaugh, and F. M. McKeehan; *from the Classis of Maryland*, Rev. Joseph W. Santee, George L. Staley, Frederick A. Rupley, Edmund R. Eschbach, Nicholas E. Gibbs, William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, J. Spangler Kieffer, W. Augustus Gring, Abner R. Kremer, Jacob Hassler, Daniel Gans, D. D., William F. Collifwer, John M. Souder, Herman Bielfeld, Mortimore L. Shuford, and Elders Louis Markell, George Pearson, Frederick K. Stone, Joshua Motter, Henry Winter, Goldsboro S. Griffith, David S. Firor, David C. Hammond, Jacob Zimmerman, F. W. Sellhausen, Ezra Williard, and Peter Baer; *from the Classis of Virginia*, Rev. Henry St. John Rinker, Henry Wissler, Stephen K. Kremer, Samuel N. Callender, Joseph S. Loose, Joel T. Rossiter, and Elders William A. Cushwa, Peter S. Roller, Reuben Huffman, John Nicely, and William W. Wenner; *from the Classis of North Carolina*, Rev. Peter M. Trexler; *and from the Classis of Mercersburg*, Rev. William M. Deatrick, Isaac G. Brown, Nehemiah H. Skyles Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., Peter S. Davis, William C. B. Shulenberger, Daniel Y. Heisler, Moses Kieffer, D. D., Harrison H. W. Hibshman, John A. Peters, Ellis N. Kremer, Ambrose C. Geary, William D. Lefevre, and Elders Abraham Weisel, John B. Kieffer, Jacob Heyser, Adam B. Wingerd, John A. Mowry, James P. Shoemaker, and Michael Sprengle.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

An election for permanent officers was thereupon held, Rev. F. A. Rupley and G. L. Staley acting as tellers, which resulted in the choice of

Rev. J. O. MILLER, *President*.

X Rev. W. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Rev. J. W. SANTEE, *Corresponding Secretary*.

Elder LOUIS MARKELL, *Treasurer*.

The Stated Clerk, Corresponding Secretary, and Treasurer, were elected by acclamation.

The following members of other District Synods being present, were received as advisory members, viz.: Rev. S. R. Fisher, D.D., T. G. Apple, D.D., A. H. Kremer, D.D., and C. U. Heilman, of the Synod in the United States, and Rev. J. W. Love, of the Pittsburgh Synod. Elders, George Sherman, from Virginia Classis, Wm. A. Wilt, from Zion's Classis, David Zeller, from Maryland Classis, and Edward J. Zahm, from Lancaster Classis, were also received as advisory members.

The presence of the following ministers of other denominations was announced: Revs. Dr. Diehl, J. F. Probst and D. Steck of the Lutheran Church; Rev. Robert H. Williams and T. M. Cann of the Presbyterian Church; Rev. Job A. Price of the Methodist Church; and Rev. A. M. Evers of the United Brethren Church.

A Committee on Religious Services was appointed, consisting of Rev. G. L. Staley, E. R. Eschbach, S. S. Miller, and Elder L. Markell.

The Synod defined the Bar of the House to be the seventh pew from the front.

The following hours were fixed upon for opening and closing the present sessions: The *Morning Session* to open at 9 and close at 12 o'clock; the *Afternoon Session* to open at 2 and close at 5 o'clock.

The authorities of the Deaf and Dumb Asylum of the State of Maryland, located at Frederick City, extended an invitation to Synod to visit said Institution. The invitation was accepted, and 3 o'clock on Monday afternoon was fixed upon to make said visit by Synod.

The Rules of Order of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States were adopted as the rules by which this Synod shall be governed in its deliberations during the present sessions.

NAME OF SYNOD.

An election was next held by ballot to determine the choice of a name for this District Synod, Revs. W. Goodrich and E. R. Eschbach acting as tellers.

The names proposed were: "Synod of the Potomac;" "Synod of Baltimore;" "Synod of the South;" "Heidelberg Synod;" "Palatinate Synod;" and "Mercersburg Synod."

The election resulted in the choice of "The Synod of the Potomac." THE SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES was accordingly adopted, as the name and title of this District Synod.

Permission was granted to Dr. Correll to make some statements this afternoon in regard to a certain property near Taneytown, Md., that can be purchased for the use of a Female Seminary.

An Overture was received from the District Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, making certain propositions in regard to the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., Home Missions, and kindred objects, and boundaries of the three Eastern District Synods.

This overture was referred to a special committee, consisting of Rev. W. K. Zieber, E. R. Eschbach, and Elder A. B. Wingerd.

Synod adjourned. Closed with singing and prayer by Rev. S. N. Callender.

THIRD SESSION.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 19th, 1878.

The Synod met at the appointed hour this afternoon. The roll was called, and quorum found to be present. The session was opened with singing and prayer by Rev. J. W. Santee.

Dr. Correll then made certain statements in relation to the property in the neighborhood of Taneytown, Md., with a view to its purchase by Synod for a Female Seminary, but Synod took no action in regard to the matter.

The Committee on Religious Services submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee on Religious Services would beg leave respectfully to report the following appointments:

Preparatory services to the holy Communion in this church tonight. Sermon by Rev. I. G. Brown.

Holy Communion in this church to-morrow morning. Sermon by Rev. Dr. Higbee. Sermon in the evening by Rev. J. S. Kieffer. Sunday-school services in the afternoon. Addresses by the Rev. Dr. Miller, P. S. Davis, and Elder E. J. Zahm.

St. John's Reformed Church: Morning, Rev. J. D. Zehring. Evening, Rev. J. Sechler.

Lutheran Church: Morning, Rev. Dr. Kieffer. Evening, Rev. P. S. Davis. Afternoon, German, Rev. D. Y. Heis'er.

Presbyterian Church: Morning, Rev J. T. Rossiter. Afternoon, Rev. J. A. Peters.

Methodist Church: Morning, Rev. J. Crawford. Evening, Rev. P. M. Trexler.

Methodist Church, South: Morning, Rev. W. C. B. Shulenberger. Evening, Rev. J. Crawford.

African Methodist Church: Morning, Rev. W. K. Zieber. Afternoon, Rev. Dr. Kremer.

African Methodist E. Church: Morning, Rev. H. H. W. Hibshman. Afternoon, Rev. L. D. Steckel. Evening, Rev. J. W. Santee.

Montevue Hospital: Rev. W. F. Colliflower.

County Jail: Rev. W. Goodrich.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. LEWIS STALEY,	} Committee.
E. R. ESCHBACH,	
S. S. MILLER,	
LOUIS MARKELL,	

The Committee to whom the Overture from the District Synod of

the Reformed Church in the United States was referred, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

The Documents placed in the hands of your Committee contain "Extracts," duly authenticated, from the Minutes of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, assembled in special sessions, in Lancaster, Pa., February 19th and 20th, 1873.

These extracts contain three items claiming our attention :

The first item has reference to the co-operation of this Synod in the support and management of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. A Commission of three was appointed to present to this Synod a Plan of Union. The Commissioners are Rev. Dr. A. H. Kremer, Rev. Dr. T. G. Apple, and Elder E. J. Zahm.

The second item refers to the co-operation of this Synod in carrying forward the work of Missions and kindred objects. A Committee of Conference was appointed to meet with similar Committees to be appointed respectively by the Synod of Pittsburgh and the Synod of the Potomac. The Commissioners named in the first item constitute this Committee.

The third item has reference to the determination of the boundaries of the three Eastern District Synods.

The Synod of the United States appointed a Committee to act in conjunction with similar Committees to be appointed by the other Synods to carry out the object specified. Said Committee consists of Rev. C. H. Leinbach, Dr. A. H. Kremer, Rev. J. Beck, and Elders J. Laubach, and E. J. Zahm. Respectfully submitted.

W. K. ZIEBER, *Chairman.*

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the first and second items of the report, together with the necessary papers, be referred to a Committee of one from each Classis composing this Synod, and that this Committee hold a conference with the Commissioners from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, and report to this body.

The Committee consists of Rev. S. N. Callender, P. M. Trexler, E. R. Eschbach, and Elders I. Laucks, and J. Heyser.

The following Committee, consisting of Rev. J. A. Peters, F. A. Rupley, and Elder J. P. Hassler, was appointed to act in conjunction with similar committees from the other two Eastern District Synods, to determine the boundaries between the three Eastern District Synods.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to nominate members for election to the Boards of Home Missions and Beneficiary Education, and that the same Committee also report all other items yet necessary for the full organization of this Synod.

The Committee consists of Rev. M. Kieffer, J. W. Santee, and Elder F. M. McKechnan.

Synod adjourned. Closed with the "Gloria Patri," and the Apostolic benediction by the Stated Clerk.

FOURTH SESSION.

MONDAY MORNING, APRIL 21st, 1873.

Synod met at the appointed hour this morning. Roll called, and quorum present. Singing, and prayer by Rev. W. K. Zieber.

The minutes of Saturday's sessions were read and approved.

An invitation was extended to Synod by the female members of the congregation, to participate in a visit to Mount Olivet Cemetery to the grave of their late Pastor, Rev. Dr. Zacharias, with a view to hold decoration services. It was accordingly,

Resolved, That this Synod accept the invitation of the ladies of this congregation, to join in a visit to Mount Olivet Cemetery, immediately after the visit to the Deaf and Dumb Asylum, for the purpose of decorating the grave of their late pastor with flowers, and that the officers of Synod be a committee to make the necessary arrangements.

The following resolution was also adopted in this connection :

Resolved, That the Synod of the Potomac hold a service in memory of Rev. Dr. Zacharias, this evening, commencing at 7½ o'clock, and that the officers of Synod be empowered to make all necessary arrangements.

Elder J. Motter obtained leave of absence after to-day's sessions.

PLACE AND TIME OF FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

It was

Resolved, That the first annual meeting of the Synod of the Potomac "be composed of all the ministers within its bounds, and one elder from each pastoral charge."

Chambersburg, Pa., was selected as the place for holding the first annual meeting of the Synod of the Potomac, and Wednesday Evening, October 22d, A.D. 1873, at 7½ o'clock, was fixed upon as the time.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That this Synod directs the several pastoral charges, within its bounds, to elect to the annual meeting in October an Elder, and furnish him with the proper credentials.

Resolved, That the ministers and delegated elders, expecting to attend the next meeting of Synod, be required to forward in due time their names to the Pastor of the Chambersburg congregation.

The Committee appointed to nominate members for the several Boards of Synod, and to report all other items yet necessary to the full organization of Synod, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

The Committee appointed to make suggestions for the complete organization of Synod in the way of electing Boards of Missions, Education, &c.

Recommend :

1st. The election of a Board of Missions, which shall have power to appoint its own officers. The following persons are nominated for

election as the members of this Board by acclamation: Rev. J. O. Miller, E. R. Eschbach, W. K. Zieber, W. R. H. Deatrich, and Elders W. A. Wilt, H. Wirt, and G. S. Griffith.

2d. Board of Education, which shall have power to elect its own officers. The following persons are nominated for election as the members of this Board by acclamation: Rev. I. G. Brown, P. S. Davis, J. S. Kieffer, J. S. Foulk, and Elders J. Heyser, D. C. Hammond, and F. M. McKeehan.

3d. Board of Trustees of Synod. The following persons are nominated for election as the members of this Board by acclamation; Lewis H. Steiner, M.D., Louis Markell, William Heyser, Rev. J. O. Miller, and S. N. Callender.

4th. A Committee on Finance, who shall make provision, as far as possible, for the contingent expenses of Synod. We recommend that this Committee be appointed by the President.

Respectfully submitted.

M. KIEFFER, *Chairman.*

On motion, the Board of Trustees were instructed to secure the incorporation of Synod, and provide a suitable seal for the use of Synod.

The Committee on Finance consists of Rev. I. G. Brown, J. Sechler, and Elder A. B. Wingerd.

Elder Henry Wirt, from the Classis of Zion, appeared and took his seat as a member of Synod.

The Committee to whom was referred the proposed Plan of Union from the District Synod of the United States, for the support and control of the Theological Seminary, and the management of the interests of Home Missions, reported as follows, which was received:

The Committee to whom was referred the proposed Plan of Union of the Synod of the United States, Synod of Pittsburgh, and this Synod, for the support and control of the Theological Seminary and the management of the interest of Missions, would respectfully report:

That they had a conference with the Commissioners appointed by the Synod of the United States to present this subject to this body, and that after careful deliberation, they would beg to present the following as their report:

WHEREAS, This Synod, having rights and privileges in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, in common with the Synod of the United States; and, WHEREAS, The Synod of the United States has overtured this Synod to exercise these rights and privileges in the election of a certain proportion of the Trustees and Board of Visitors, to assist in the management of the Seminary; and has proposed a plan for the accomplishment of this purpose, to be perfected by the co-operation of the Synod of Pittsburgh—

Resolved, That this Synod deems the plan proposed too complicated for successful operation, and in lieu thereof, requests the Synod of the United States to elect a due proportion of the Boards of Trustees and Visitors, from this Synod, which trustees and visitors shall

be nominated by this Synod, and that an annual report from each of said Boards shall be sent to this body.

Resolved, That in thus complying with the request of the Synod of the United States, this action shall in no way be construed so as to prejudice or condition directly or indirectly the freedom of action of this Synod in following out any educational policy which she may see fit to devise; nor shall this action be so taken as to allow the sending of an agent or agents within the limits of this Synod for the collection of funds without the express consent of this body.

Resolved, further, That a committee be appointed to confer with a like committee from the Synod of the United States, as proposed by said body, upon the subject of Missions, and to devise a plan of co-operation on that subject, to be submitted to the several Synods interested.

Respectfully submitted.

S. N. CALLENDER,	} <i>Committee.</i>
E. R. ESCHBACH,	
P. M. TREXLER,	
ISRAEL LAUCKS,	
JACOB HEYSER.	

Before disposing of this report, the time for adjournment arrived. Rev. J. W. Santee, and Elder G. Pearson, obtained leave of absence after this session.

Synod adjourned. Prayer by Rev. Dr. Fisher.

FIFTH SESSION.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, APRIL 21, 1873.

Synod assembled at the appointed hour. The Roll was called, and quorum found to be present. Singing and prayer by Rev. F. A. Rupley.

Rev. Wm. C. Cremer, and Elder John H. Bowers, of the Maryland Classis, appeared and took their seats as members of Synod.

A committee, consisting of Rev. E. N. Kremer and H. H. W. Hibshman, was appointed to collect an assessment of 25 cents upon each member of Synod to compensate the sexton for his trouble.

Elders P. S. Roller, A. B. Wingerd, and Rev. D. Gans, H. H. W. Hibshman, and H. Wissler, obtained leave of absence after to-day's sessions.

After further discussion the report of the committee, under consideration at the hour of adjournment this morning, was adopted.

The committee called for in the last resolution consists of the Board of Missions elected this forenoon.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted.

WHEREAS, This Synod has heard of the death in Lancaster of John W. Nevin, Jr., the son of the venerable Dr. John Williamson Nevin; and, WHEREAS, Most of the members of this Synod have

held such relations to the father of the deceased as to make them ever ready to sympathize in his sorrows as well as his joys; therefore,

Resolved, That the members of the Synod of the Potomac herewith express their profound sympathy with Dr. Nevin and family in the afflicting dispensation which has just visited them, accompanying the same with the sincere prayer that our Heavenly Father may comfort their bereaved hearts and lead them to look forward, with assured confidence, to meet the deceased in that home, where all those who love the Saviour on earth are forever blessed in His presence

Resolved, That a copy of this action of Synod, signed by its officers, be published in the "Reformed Church Messenger," and be communicated to the family.

It was

Resolved, That when we adjourn this afternoon, it be to meet again this evening at 7½ o'clock.

The Synod then in a body made the visit to the Deaf and Dumb Asylum. Immediately afterwards Synod visited the grave, in Mount Olivet Cemetery, of Rev. Dr. Zacharias, and participated in the ceremony of decorating his grave as contemplated by the action of Synod this morning. The ceremony was truly solemn and impressive. Synod adjourned whilst standing around the grave, the President pronouncing the apostolic benediction.

SIXTH SESSION.

MONDAY EVENING, APRIL 21, 1873.

Synod met this evening, pursuant to adjournment, at 7½ o'clock. About an hour and a half were spent in holding services in memory of Rev. Dr. Daniel Zacharias, consisting of singing and prayer led by the President, and memorial addresses by Rev. Dr. Fisher, Rev. Dr. Kieffer, and Rev. Dr. Higbee.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report, which was received and adopted: The Committee on Finance beg leave to offer the following as their report.

Your committee estimate the expenses for the coming year at \$397.00.

Salary of Stated Clerk,.....	\$ 75 00
Minute Book,.....	5 00
Treasurer's Book,.....	2 00
Seal for Synod and Press.....	10 00
Incorporation,.....	5 00
Publication of the Minutes of Synod,.....	300 00
	<hr/>
	\$397 00

To meet the expenses of Synod, your committee has made the following assessments :

Zion's Classis,.....	\$112 00
Maryland Classis,.....	112 00
Mercersburg Classis,.....	112 00
Virginia Classis,.....	35 00
North Carolina Classis,.....	30 00
Total.	\$401.00

Respectfully submitted,
 I. G. BROWN,
 J. SECHLER,
 A. B. WINGERD. } *Committee.*

Rev. L. D. Steckel, I. G. Brown, J. D. Zehring, J. Crawford, and Elder J. H. Yost obtained leave of absence.

Synod adjourned. Prayer by the President.

SEVENTH SESSION.

TUESDAY MORNING, APRIL 22d, 1873.

Synod met at 9 o'clock this morning. Quorum present. Singing, and prayer by Rev. J. Sechler.

The minutes of yesterday's sessions were read and approved.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Synod of Pottstown in 1871, assessed \$1,000.00 towards meeting the contingent expenses of the late General Synod—a due proportion of which amount has been paid by the Classes composing the Synod of the Potomac, just organized; and, WHEREAS, the late General Synod of Cincinnati assessed upon "the proposed new Synod," that is, upon the Synod of the Potomac, for contingent purposes the sum of \$335.00, whilst only \$620.00 were assessed upon the Synod of the United States: and WHEREAS, The combined amount thus assessed, viz.: \$955.00 was more than covered by the single assessment made by the Synod of Pottstown, for the purpose of meeting the contingent expenses assessed, upon both Synods, by the General Synod; therefore,

Resolved, That the Synod of the United States be respectfully, yet most urgently overtured to assume the payment of the sum assessed (\$335.00) upon this Synod by the General Synod.

Furthermore, WHEREAS, The Synod of Martinsburg, in 1872, through a misapprehension of the amount needed to meet the demands of the late General Synod, assessed a like additional sum of \$1,000.00 upon the Classes then composing said Synod, including of course the several Classes now constituting the Synod of the Potomac: and, WHEREAS, said thousand dollars are not needed to meet the assessment of the General Synod: and, WHEREAS, This amount forms just five-ninths of the entire assessments made by the Synod of Martinsburg in 1872, therefore,

Resolved, That this Synod most respectfully requests the Synod of

the United States, to exonerate the several Classes of this Synod, from the payment of five-ninths of said assessments, that is, Zion's Classis from the payment of \$66.66; Maryland Classis \$66.66; Mercersburg Classis \$66.66; Virginia Classis \$16.66; and North Carolina Classis \$13.88. Making in all \$230.73.

Resolved, That the officers of Synod be Commissioners to attend the next meeting of the Synod of the United States, to prosecute the requests of the foregoing resolutions.

Resolved, Further, That the Stated Clerk call the attention of the several Classes of this Synod, to this matter, and also furnish them with the assessments made upon them by this Synod.

Rev. W. Goodrich, S. N. Callender, H. St. J. Rinker, J. S. Loose, D. Y. Heisler, and Elders J. P. Hassler and F. M. McKeenan, obtained leave of absence.

It was

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to transmit to Rev. Dr. A. H. Kremer, chairman of the Commission from the Synod of the United States, a certified copy of the action of this Synod, in regard to the overture from that Synod, and, that the Commission be requested to bear our Christian greeting and assurance, that we are in full Theological sympathy with the Synod of the United States.

The Committee appointed to collect the assessment for the sexton, reported as follows, which was received and adopted:

The Committee appointed to collect the tax laid on the members to remunerate the sexton, report that they have collected and paid over \$17.50.

Respectfully submitted.

E. N. KREMER,

H. H. W. HIBSHMAN.

VOTE OF THANKS.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the most cordial thanks of this Synod, be tendered to the Consistory and members of the Evangelical Reformed Church, and other citizens of Frederick City, Md., for the very liberal hospitality and kind entertainment extended to its members, during its present sessions, and that the Consistory be requested to have this resolution read from the pulpit at any early day; and, further, that the Consistory be also requested to have it published in the several papers of the place.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be tendered to the officers of the Baltimore and Ohio, Hanover Branch, Littlestown Branch, and Frederick and Pennsylvania Line Railroads, for permitting its members to pass over their respective roads at reduced fare.

The roll was called and none found absent without permission.

The Minutes were read and adopted, and ordered to be engrossed.

Adjourned with the repetition of the Apostles' Creed, the singing of the Gloria Patri, the Lord's prayer, and the Apostolic benediction by the President.

Attest,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

J. O. MILLER, *President*.

FIRST ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

CONVENED IN CONVENTION,

CHAMBERSBURG, PA., OCTOBER, 1873.

PHILADELPHIA:

REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD, No. 907 ARCH STREET.

1873.



LEMMATA.

ART. I. OPENING OF SYNOD.

ART. II. MEMBERS PRESENT.

ART. III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

ART. IV. RULES OF ORDER.

ART. V. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

1. *On Religious Services.*

2. *On Minutes of Synod.*

3. *On Overtures.*

4. *On Minutes of Classes.*

5. *On Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.*

6. *On the State of Religion and Statistical Reports.*

7. *On Beneficiary Education.*

8. *On Missions.*

9. *On Finance.*

10. *On Nominations.*

ART. VI. COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. VII. RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

ART. VIII. MINUTES OF SYNOD.

ART. IX. OVERTURES.

ART. X. MINUTES OF CLASSES.

ART. XI. EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND ORDINATION.

ART. XII. STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

ART. XIII. EDUCATION.

ART. XIV. MISSIONS.

ART. XV. FINANCE.

ART. XVI. APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

ART. XVII. COMPLAINTS.

ART. XVIII. SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

ART. XIX. CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

ART. XX. PUBLICATION.

ART. XXI. MISCELLANEOUS.

ART. XXII. RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

ART. XXIII. ADJOURNMENT.

First Annual Meeting.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its annual sessions, convened in convention in Chambersburg, Pa., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three. The sessions commenced on the evening of the twenty-second, and continued until the evening of the twenty-seventh of the month inclusive.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod met at the appointed time, in Zion's Reformed Church of Chambersburg, Pa., and was opened with the usual religious services. The President, Rev. Jacob O. Miller, D. D., preached the opening sermon from Matt. ix. 37, 38: "*Then saith He unto His disciples, The harvest truly is plenteous, but the laborers are few. Pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He will send forth laborers into His harvest.*"

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Rev. Jacob O. Miller, D. D., Wm. K. Zieber, D. D., John S. Foulk, Aaron Wanner, James Crawford, Francis S. Lindaman, Henry Wissler, and David W. Wolff.

Elders. Israel Laucks, Henry C. Schriver, John W. Smith, George W. Kochenderfer, George Hoobaugh, David Wolf, Jacob M. Bollinger, and John P. Hassler.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Rev. Joseph W. Santee, George I. Staley, D. D., Frederick A. Rupley, Edmund R. Eschbach, William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller,

William C. Cremer, W. Augustus Gring, Daniel Gans, D. D., Wm. F. Colliflower, J. Mortimore Souder, J. Spangler Kieffer, Mortimore L. Shuford, Abner R. Kremer, and Thomas L. Poulson.

Elders. Henry Coblentz, John T. Ankeney, Wm. H. Lakin, David Zeller, Louis Markell, Peter B. Mikesell, George Harbaugh of J., Peter Baer, Joseph Gernand, George Harbaugh of G., Joshua Motter, J. W. Messersmith, Ezra Williard, George H. Buckey, and Goldsboro S. Griffith.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Adam C. Whitmer, Peter S. Davis, D. D., John H. Sykes, Daniel Y. Heisler, Moses Kieffer, D. D., Harrison H. W. Hibshman, Elias D. Shoemaker, Albert G. Dole, Jeriah S. Shade, John A. Peters, Ellis N. Kremer, Ambrose C. Geary, Henry I. Comfort, Benjamin S. Schneck, D. D., Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., Henry Heckerman, Isaac G. Brown, George R. Zacharias, Wm. C. B. Shulenberger, Wm. D. Lefevre, Jacob Hassler, and Milton H. Sangree.

Elders. Isaac H. Keefer, Frederick Hyle, Joseph Stickell, James Bowser, David Dunn, David Montgomery, Benjamin Neff, John P. Reed, J. R. Pague, Jacob Walter, David B. Martin, David Aurandt, George B. Wiestling, Alvy B. Bowen, Wm. Bossert, David Thompson, Prof. George N. Abbott, Adam B. Wingerd, and Jacob Scheuring.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Rev. John C. Hensell, Henry St. John Rinker, Stephen K. Kremer, Samuel N. Callender, D. D., Joel T. Rossiter, and George H. Martin.

Elders.—Harvey Wise, John H. Bauserman, Jacob Tisinger, Richard L. Gray, Peter S. Roller, Emanuel Staley, George P. Souder, George W. Lantz, and Wm. J. Hensel.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Rev. Peter M. Trexler.

Elders.—

Note. A number of members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session, and hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would, had they been present at the opening session. A number of the members also obtained leave of absence from day to day. In two instances the names of two elders *secundi* appear in the foregoing list of members together with their *primarii*.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

From the Synod of the United States.—Rev. E. V. Gerhart, D. D., Theodore Appel, D. D., John Gantenbein, and Calvin U. Heilman.

Elder.—J. David Miller.

From the Classis of Zion.—Elders Wm. A. Wilt, Jerome Beaver and F. M. McKeenan.

From the Classis of Maryland.—Elder Frisby Davis.

From the Classis of Mercersburg.—Elders Jacob Heyser, Daniel S. Fahnestock, John Bowman, Wm. Dice, and John Brewster.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of the following ministers was announced at intervals during the sessions of Synod :

Rev. Dr. Archibald, I. N. Hays, Dr. Kennedy, and Prof. Lane of the Presbyterian Church ; Rev. L. A. Gotwald and — Shirts of the Lutheran Church : Rev. Dr. Hamlin, F. Dyson, A. M. Kester, and—Robbins of the Methodist Episcopal Church ; Rev. Henry Tallhelm, and—Huber of the United Brethren Church ; and Rev. Dr. Kerr of the United Presbyterian Church.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. Edmund R. Eschbach was chosen *President*.

Rev. William M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*.

Rev. Joseph W. Santee was re-elected *Corresponding Secretary*.

Elder Louis Markell was re-elected *Treasurer*.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The following Rules of Order were read and adopted to facilitate the transaction of Synodical business, viz. :

RULES OF ORDER.

Article I. The President shall take the chair precisely at the hour to which Synod stands adjourned ; shall immediately call the members to order ; and on the appearance of a quorum, shall open the meeting with a Hymn and Prayer.

Article II. If a quorum be assembled at the hour appointed, and the President be absent, the Synod shall appoint a President *pro tempore*.

Article III. If a quorum be not assembled at the hour appointed, any two members shall be competent to adjourn from time to time, that an opportunity may be given for a quorum to assemble.

Article IV. After prayer, the Synod shall proceed to business. The business shall be taken up in such order as shall conform most nearly to that laid down in the Lemmata adopted by Synod. The

business referred to Standing Committees shall have the precedence, except subjects which may have been assigned to some particular hour.

Article V. It shall be the duty of the President, at all times, to preserve order, guard against the violation of the Constitution, or the Rules of Synod, and to endeavor to conduct all business before Synod to a speedy and proper conclusion.

Article VI. It shall be the duty of the President carefully to keep notes of the several articles of business, which may be assigned to particular days, and to call them up at the time appointed, and to appoint all committees, except in those cases in which Synod shall decide otherwise.

Article VII. The President may speak with regard to points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose, and shall decide questions of order subject to an appeal to Synod, which may be taken by any two members. Such appeal shall be taken without debate, and require two thirds of the members voting to sustain it.

Article VIII. It shall be the duty of the Secretaries, as soon as possible after the commencement of a meeting of Synod, to form a complete Roll of the members present, and to put the same into the hands of the President; and to file all papers in the order they have been read, with proper endorsements, and to keep them in perfect order.

Article IX. Business left unfinished at a preceding sitting shall be ordinarily first taken up at the succeeding one.

Article X. A motion made must be seconded, and afterwards repeated or read aloud by the President, before it is debated; and every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the President, or any member, require it.

Article XI. Any member who shall have made a motion, shall have liberty to withdraw it, with the consent of his second, before any debate has taken place thereon; but not afterwards, without leave of the Synod.

Article XII. On questions of order, adjournment, commitment, or the previous question, no member shall speak more than once. On all other questions, each member may speak twice, but not oftener, without leave of Synod.

Article XIII. When a question is under debate, no motion shall be received, except a motion to amend, to commit, to postpone, to take the previous question, or to adjourn.

Article XIV. An amendment may be moved on any motion, and shall be decided before the original motion.

Article XV. If a motion under debate contains several parts, any two members may call for a division, and may have the question taken on each part separately.

Article XVI. The previous question on any motion shall not be called until after a reasonable time shall have been afforded to discuss

it. The call to be entertained must be made by at least twelve members rising in their places for the purpose. The previous question shall be in this form: Shall the main question be now put? And until it is decided, it shall preclude all further amendment or debate on the main question. The effect of a call for the previous question, when sustained, shall be to bring the Synod to a direct vote on the motion then pending.

Article XVII. A question shall not be again called up or reconsidered at the same session of the Synod in which it has been decided, unless the motion to reconsider be made and seconded by persons who voted with the majority.

Article XVIII. Every member, when speaking, shall address himself to the President, and shall treat his fellow members, and especially the President, with decorum and respect.

Article XIX. During the transaction of business, members shall not engage in private conversation; nor shall one member address himself to another, or to any person present, in a debate, except by permission from the President.

Article XX. No speaker shall be interrupted, unless he be out of order, or for the purpose of correcting mistakes or misrepresentations.

Article XXI. It is indispensable that members of Synod maintain great gravity and dignity; that they attend closely in their speeches to the subject under consideration, and avoid all prolix and desultory harangues; and when they deviate from the subject, it is the privilege of any member, and the duty of the President, to call them to order.

Article XXII. No member, in the course of debate, shall be allowed to indulge in personalities.

Article XXIII. If more than one member rise to speak at the same time, the member, who is most distant from the President's chair, shall speak first.

Article XXIV. When more than three members of the Synod shall be standing at the same time, the President shall require all to take their seats, the person excepted, only, who may be speaking.

Article XXV. If any member act, in any respect, in a disorderly manner, it shall be the privilege of any member, and the duty of the President, to call him to order.

Article XXVI. The Synod, immediately after it has completed its organization, shall define the limits, which shall constitute the bar of the house, and no member shall be allowed to take part in the discussion, or to vote on any question, who is not at the time, within these limits.

Article XXVII. Members ought not, without weighty reasons, to decline voting, as this practice might leave the decision of very interesting questions to a small portion of the Synod. Silent members, unless excused from voting, must be considered as acquiescing in the vote of the majority.

Article XXVIII. The person first named on any committee, shall

be considered as the chairman thereof, whose duty it shall be to convene the committee; and in case of his absence or inability to act, the second named member shall take his place and perform his duties.

Article XXXIX. When different motions are made with respect to the filling of blanks with particular numbers or times, the question shall always be taken first, on the highest number, and on the longest time.

Article XXX. When the President has begun to take the vote, no further debate shall be admitted, unless it appear that a mistake has occurred; in which case the mistake shall be corrected, and the President shall recommence taking the vote.

Article XXXI. When a vote is taken by ballot, the President shall vote with the other members; but he shall not vote in any other case, unless the Synod shall be equally divided; when, if he do not choose to vote, the question shall be lost.

Article XXXII. No member shall be permitted to enter a protest against any decision of Synod. If a member feel himself aggrieved by any such decision, the *Yeas* and *Nays* in the case, shall be recorded, if he require it.

Article XXXIII. The Synod may sit in private, on business which, in their judgment, ought not to be matter of public discussion.

Article XXXIV. Besides the private sessions which may be held whenever it be judged expedient so to do, the Synod may hold what are commonly termed interlocutory meetings, or Committees of the whole Synod, in which members may freely converse together, without the usual formalities of Synodical proceedings.

Article XXXV. If a member withdraw from Synod without leave from the President, or return home without the consent of Synod, he shall incur the censure of Synod.

Article XXXVI. At the final adjournment of Synod, after an appropriate prayer and hymn, the President shall pronounce the Apostolic benediction.

The Synod defined the bar of the house as directed by the foregoing Rules of Order.

The following hours were fixed upon for opening and closing the present sessions of Synod:

The Morning Sessions, to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock.

The Afternoon Sessions, to open at 2 and close at 4½ o'clock.

An evening session was held on the last day of the sessions.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following were appointed by the President:

Minutes of Synod.—Rev. H. St. J. Rinker, H. H. W. Hibshman, J. M. Souder, and Elders R. L. Gray and B. Neff.

Overtures.—Rev. S. N. Callender, W. K. Zieber, A. G. Dole, and Elders F. Hyle and W. H. Lakin.

Correspondence with Sister Churches.—Rev. A. Wanner, D. Gans, J. T. Rossiter, and Elders I. Laucks and J. Bouser.

Minutes of Classes.—Rev. J. S. Foulk, S. S. Miller, E. N. Kremer, and Elders J. R. Pague and E. Staley.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination.—Rev. G. L. Staley, D. Y. Heisler, J. O. Miller, and Elders J. H. Bauserman and G. Hoo-
baugh.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports.—Rev. J. A. Peters, W. C. Cremer, J. S. Shade, and Elders L. Markell, and J. T. Ankeney.

Missions.—Rev. M. Kieffer, J. C. Hensell, W. F. Colliflower, and Elders P. B. Mikesell and G. W. Kochenderfer.

Finance.—Rev. F. A. Rupley, J. H. Sykes, J. Crawford, and Elders J. P. Reed, and J. W. Smith.

Nominations.—Rev. A. C. Whitmer, W. Goodrich, S. K. Kremer, and Elders H. C. Schriver, and I. H. Keefer.

Religious Services.—Rev. P. S. Davis, B. S. Schneck, W. A. Gring, and Elders J. Walter, and P. S. Roller.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Zion, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, and North Carolina were received, and referred to the Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports, which were referred to the Committee on those subjects.

2. The Report of the Treasurer was read, and then referred to the Committee on Finance.

3. The First Annual Report of the Synod's Board of Missions was received and referred to the Committee on Missions.

4. Five other Communications were received, and referred to the Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following Religious Services:

1. All the sessions were opened and closed with suitable religious services.

2. The Committee on Religious Services submitted their report, which was received, amended and adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Religious Services beg leave to report as follows :

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD.

First Church.

Thursday evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. S. Kieffer.

Friday evening.—Sermon by Rev. T. L. Poulson.

Saturday afternoon.—Preparatory Services : address by Rev. Dr. Callender.

Saturday evening.—Sermon by—

Sunday morning.—Communion Services : Sermon by Rev. E. R. Eschbach.

Sunday afternoon.—Sunday-school services : addresses by Rev. Dr. Zieber, and Dr. Higbee.

Sunday evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. Crawford.

Second Reformed Church (German.)

Saturday evening.—Preparatory services : sermon by Rev. F. S. Lindaman.

Sunday morning.—Communion services : sermon by Rev. J. Gantenbein.

Sunday evening.—Sermon by Rev. A. Wanner.

SERVICES IN SISTER CHURCHES ON SUNDAY.

First Lutheran Church.—Morning, Rev. J. T. Rossiter, and evening, Rev. Dr. Staley.

Second Lutheran Church.—Morning, Rev. D. Y. Heisler, and evening, Rev. J. Gantenbein.

First Presbyterian Church.—Evening, Rev. Dr. Higbee.

Central Presbyterian Church.—Morning, Rev. E. N. Kremer, and evening, Rev. W. M. Deatrick.

First Methodist Church.—Morning, Rev. W. C. Cremer, and evening, Rev. A. R. Kremer.

Second Methodist Church.—Morning, Rev. W. Goodrich, and evening, Rev. Dr. Kieffer.

United Brethren Church.—Morning, Rev. H. Wissler, and evening, Rev. I. G. Brown.

Baptist Church.—Morning, Rev. W. F. Colliflower, and evening, Rev. J. M. Souder.

Carrstown Colored Church.—Rev. D. W. Wolff.

German Street Colored Church.—Rev. H. St. J. Rinker.

Respectfully submitted.

P. S. DAVIS,
B. S. SCHNECK,
J. WALTER,
P. S. ROLLER.

The religious services, as appointed by the Committee, were severally observed.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of Organization was dispensed with; and they were referred to the Committee on Minutes of Synod. The Minutes of the General Synod, held in Cincinnati, Ohio, in November and December, 1872, were also referred to the same Committee. This Committee submitted the following report, which was received and disposed of item by item:

The Committee on Synodical Minutes would beg leave to submit the following subjects as claiming the attention of this Synod.

Synod of Organization.

Item 1. The appointment of a committee consisting of the Rev. J. A. Peters, F. A. Rupley, and Elder J. P. Hassler, which was appointed to act in conjunction with similar committees from the other two eastern District Synods to determine the boundaries between the three Eastern District Synods.

Item 2. A resolution, instructing the Board of Trustees to secure the incorporation of Synod, and provide a suitable seal for the use of Synod.

Item 3. A resolution requesting the Synod of the United States to elect a due proportion of the Boards of Trustees and Visitors of the Theological Seminary from this Synod, which Trustees and Visitors shall be nominated by this Synod, and that an annual report from each of said Boards shall be sent to this body.

Item 4. A resolution appointing a committee to confer with a like committee from the Synod of the United States as proposed by said body upon the subject of Missions, and to devise a plan of co-operation upon that subject to be submitted to the several Synods interested.

Item 5. The assessments for contingent purposes upon the Classes composing this Synod.

Item 6. A resolution making it the duty of the Officers of this Synod to prosecute the requests of this Synod to the Synod of the United States, that said Synod assume the payment of the assessment made by the General Synod upon the "proposed new Synod" for contingent purposes, and also exonerate the several Classes of this Synod from a proportionate amount of said Synod's assessment upon them for the contingent fund of that Synod.

Item 7. A resolution making it the duty of the Stated Clerk to call the attention of the several Classes composing this Synod to this matter, and also furnish them with the assessments made upon them by this Synod.

Item 8. A resolution directing the Stated Clerk to transmit to Rev. Dr. A. H. Kremer, Chairman of the Commission from the Synod of the United States, a certified copy of the action of this Synod, in regard to the overture from that Synod, and that the Commission be requested to bear our greetings and assurance that we are in full Theological sympathy with the Synod of the United States.

General Synod.

Item 9, pages 28 and 29. Two resolutions in reference to the union of the Reformed Church in America, and the Reformed Church in the United States.

Item 10, page 62. A resolution recommending all the pastors and congregations of the Reformed Church to co-operate with the German Evangelical Missionary Society in the United States.

Item 11, page 63. Is General Synod's action in reference to Home Missions.

Item 12, page 85. A resolution in reference to the drafting of a new Constitution.

Item 13, page 92. A resolution requesting the Classes to add an additional column in the statistical table for the number of students for the ministry.

Item 14, page 95. An assessment upon this Synod of \$335.00 by the General Synod to meet the current expenses of said Synod.

Item 15, page 98. The General Synod holds its next regular sessions in St. John's Reformed Church of Fort Wayne, Allen County, Indiana, on the first Wednesday after Whit-Sunday, May 19th, A. D. 1875, at 8 o'clock, P. M.

Respectfully submitted.

HY. ST. J. RINKER,	}	<i>Committee.</i>
H. H. W. HIBSHMAN,		
J. M. SOUDER,		
R. L. GRAY,		
B. NEFF.		

For the action on items 1, 8, 9, 12, and 13, see Article XIX., Church Government; on item 2, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; on items 4, 10, and 11, see Article XIV., Missions; on items 5, 6, 7, and 14, see Article XV., Finance; item 15 was adopted.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Committee on Overtures submitted their report, which was received and disposed of item by item, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Overtures beg leave to report.

The following papers have come into their hands, which they beg to present to your Reverend body:

1. The report of the Committee of Conference, on the union of the three eastern Synods, in carrying forward their missionary operations.

2. A complaint from J. Z. Smith against the action of Mercersburg Classis, in reconstructing the Woodcock Valley Charge.

3. A communication from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, with reference to Church property in Washington City, D. C.

4. A communication from the same body, in reply to the request of this Synod, to be released from the payment of certain assessments.

5. A paper containing the excuse of Rev. Daniel Ziegler, D. D., for non-attendance upon the meetings of this Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod in reference to item 1, see Article XIV., Missions; item 2, see Article XVII., Complaints; item 3, see Article XIX., Church Government; item 4, see Article XV., Finance; and item 5, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes, submitted their report, which was received, disposed of item by item, and is as follows:

The Committee on Minutes of Classes would respectfully submit the following report:

I. IRREGULARITIES.

None reported.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. The Classis of Virginia requests the Synod of the Potomac, to transmit the Minutes of the Classes connected with Synod, to the Stated Clerk of the General Synod.

2. Mercersburg and Virginia Classes refer the beneficiary students under their care to the Board of Education of this Synod, and instruct their treasurers to forward all funds collected within their bounds to the Treasurer of the Board of Education.

3. Maryland Classis refers the organization of the German brethren within its bounds, into a Classis, to this Synod.

4. Zion's Classis refers the apportionment of \$200.00 to liquidate the indebtedness of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, to this Synod.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

1. Mercersburg Classis authorized its Treasurer to pay four-fifths of the assessment for contingent expenses to the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, as directed by this Synod.

2. Maryland, Zion's, Virginia, and North Carolina Classes, took favorable action on the assessments, as directed by this Synod.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED, AND DISMISSED.

1. Zion's Classis licensed Harry M. Kieffer; received Rev. Henry Wissler from the Virginia Classis; and dismissed the licentiate Harry M. Kieffer to the Philadelphia Classis, Rev. David W. Wolff to the Clarion Classis, and Rev. Lewis D. Steckel to the Somerset Classis.

2. Maryland Classis received the licentiate, J. Mortimore Souder, from the Lancaster Classis, Synod of the United States, and ordained him; received Rev. Herman Bielfeld from the same Classis, Rev. Gotthold Neef, from the Philadelphia Classis (German), and Rev. Mortimore L. Shuford, from the Virginia Classis; dismissed Rev. John M. Titzel to Westmoreland Classis, Rev. C. L. E. Schild to Western New York Classis, Rev. Jacob Hassler to Mercersburg Classis, and Rev. H. L. Grandlienard, to the Presbytery of New York.

3. Mercersburg Classis received Rev. Henry Miller from the Lancaster Classis, Synod of the United States, and Rev. Jacob Hassler from the Maryland Classis; and dismissed Rev. Henry W. Hoffmeier to the Clarion Classis, and Rev. Wm. C. B. Shulenberg to the Virginia Classis.

4. Virginia Classis dismissed Rev. Mortimore L. Shuford to the Maryland Classis.

5. North Carolina Classis ordained the licentiate M. L. Hedrick.

VI. TIME AND PLACE OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF CLASSES.

1. Zion's Classis, will meet in Abbottstown, Adams Co., Pa., on the third Friday in May (15th), 1874, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. John S. Foulk, *President*, and Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrach, *Stated Clerk*.

2. Maryland Classis, will meet in Manchester, Carroll Co., Md., on Thursday after Trinity Sunday, June 4th, 1874, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. Wm. C. Cremer, *President*, and Rev. Simon S. Miller, *Stated Clerk*.

3. Mercersburg Classis, will meet in Everett, Bedford Co., Pa., Thursday evening, June 4th, A. D. 1874, at 7½ o'clock. Rev. Daniel Y. Heisler, *President*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrach, *Stated Clerk*.

4. Virginia Classis will meet in St. John's Church, Augusta Co., Va., on Thursday before the third Sunday in May, 1874, at 7 o'clock, P. M. Rev. John C. Hensell, *President*, and Rev. Henry St. John Rinker, *Stated Clerk*.

5. North Carolina Classis will meet in Lower Stone Church, in the Eastern Rowan Charge, North Carolina, on Thursday before the first Lord's Day, in May, 1874, at 11 o'clock, A. M. Rev. J. W. Cecil, *President*, and Rev. G. Wm. Welker, *Stated Clerk*.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN S. FOULK,	} <i>Committee.</i>
S. S. MILLER,	
ELLIS N. KREMER,	
J. R. PAGUE,	
E. STALEY.	

The request in item 1 was on motion granted; for action on item 3 of Requests, see Article XIX. Church Government; and on item 4, see Article XV. Finance; all the remaining items in the report were adopted.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE AND ORDINATION.

The Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

The Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination beg leave to report, that there have been no applicants referred to them, and consequently, they have nothing further to report.

Respectfully submitted.

GEO. LEWIS STALEY, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports submitted their report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

To the Synod of the Potomac.

REVEREND FATHERS AND BRETHREN:

"Grace be unto you, and peace, from God our Father, and from the Lord Jesus Christ."

From the reports of the several Classes under our Synodical care, we learn that the Church within our boundaries is, in the main,

blessed with encouraging signs of prosperity. Jesus Christ, "the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the ending, the first and the last" in our holy religion, is believed in, honored and adored, not simply as a human Saviour, but, in deed and in truth, as the Son of God who has come in the flesh, and who through His incarnation, His blessed life of humiliation, His precious death, and His eventual glorification by the power of His resurrection and ascension to the right hand of the Father, has become "the Head over all things to the Church, which is His body, the fullness of Him that filleth all in all." To this end, we are assured, that the Church is regarded as the bearer of Christ's blessed life unto men by the power of the Holy Ghost, according to the Saviour's own precious promise, when He was about ascending on high, leading captivity captive: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Hence, the worship of the sanctuary, the preaching of the gospel, and the administration of the holy sacraments are revered as the divinely ordained channels of God's mercy and grace unto men, in which and through which every want and necessity of our helpless, fallen humanity are met and satisfied.

Cheering reports come in from every section of our territory of the regard in which our time-honored system of Catechization is held, by the laity as well as by the ministry, as the efficient agency of preparing the baptized children of the Church for confirmation and the Holy Communion. The result of this faithful care and oversight of the lambs of the Redeemer's fold shows itself in the reports that during the past year one thousand, one hundred and twenty-two persons have been received into the full communion of the Church by the solemn rite of the laying-on of hands. This fact is a manifest evidence that, as a Church, we are still true to "the faith once delivered to the Saints," and also true to the faith and practice of the fathers of the Reformation. The Reformed Church, to be consistent with her original genius and mission, cannot do otherwise than appreciate and encourage an educational religion in which the child is engrafted into Christ through the initial sacrament of the Church, and then, through the faithful nurture of the Christian family and the Catechetical class, grows more and more in the grace of the life of Christ in order that in its own consciousness and life it may bring forth the fruits of the blessed Spirit, "first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear."

As an auxiliary power to this system, every Classis recognizes the blessed influence exerted by the Sunday-school, but at the same time, we cannot help but notice that each Classis complains that this branch of our activity, as it is usually conducted among us, does not come up to its full measure of power and usefulness. It is felt on all sides that only as we regard the Sunday-school as the nursery of the Church—not superseding the duties of Christian parents and pastors toward their children and youth, but as a *help* to these agencies—can the school fulfill its legitimate mission in bringing those

who, in covenant vows, have been dedicated to the service of the Holy Trinity to a full realization that, "in body and in soul, in life and in death, they are *not* their own but belong to their faithful Saviour Jesus Christ."

The work of Church extension is engaging no little share of the attention of all the Classes. We are realizing more and more the solemn and perpetual obligation under which we are placed to fulfill the commission of the Great Head of the Church: "Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature." Indeed, the holy work of Missions challenges the regard and energy of this young Synod more earnestly, perhaps, than any other sphere of Christian activity. A large portion of our area is in the fullest sense missionary ground. The cry comes up to us from the fertile fields of Virginia, the forests and savannahs of Carolina, and the plains of California: "Come over and help us." Necessity is thus laid upon us in this direction. It remains for us, here upon the very threshold of our history, to determine, whether we will go in and occupy the land that is thus spread out before us. To do this, we need to develop the resources which God has placed within our reach, especially in three directions:

a). The spirit of Christian beneficence among our membership, which several of the Classical reports complain of as being at a low ebb, must be increased. We need more grace to realize the truth of the precious declaration of the sacred Scripture, that "it is more blessed to give than to receive;" and we need moreover to develop this grace of Charity in a systematic direction, contributing in the old Apostolic way, according to the injunction: "Upon the first day of the week, let every one lay by him in store as God hath prospered him."

b). We need also men for this great work. The whitening harvest is great, but the laborers are few indeed. Our sons, consecrated in holy baptism unto God, must be challenged in the family, from the pulpit, in the Catechetical Class and the Sunday-school, with the solemn message of the Master, "Go ye also into the vineyard." They must be made to feel that the claims of Christ upon them, even though they be accompanied only with the prospect of poverty and self-denial, are of paramount significance and importance—more binding than the emoluments, the fame and the honors of life in any other sphere of labor.

But, c). Of what account are pecuniary resources, or of what account are even men without a thorough Christian training for the work? The ministry that is needed at the present day, to carry forward the work of the Lord, must be pre-eminently an educated ministry. The world that is to be overcome is now clothed in the garb of a refined, enlightened and civilized infidelity. Materialism and rationalism, not in their crudest forms, but in the fascination of intellectual power and the sanctified demeanor of an evangelical philosophy, are the main features of its opposition to "the truth as it is in

Jesus." To meet these antagonistic forces, the Ministry of Christ must be trained to be workmen of whom the Church need not be ashamed. Hence, it becomes our imperative duty to foster and maintain our institutions of learning, in which men may be thoroughly nurtured and trained in Christ to go forth and handle efficiently the weapons of the Spirit "against the principalities, the powers, the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." We have wealth, we have sons, we have institutions of learning, founded and established for this very end. Will we as ministers and elders of the Synod labor and pray that all these resources, which the Lord has placed within our hands, may be laid upon the altar of the gospel, and thus become consecrated to the great work of bringing in the full power and consummation of the Redeemer's kingdom among men? Only in the degree that we, to whom the great commission has been entrusted, come up to this work of the Lord against the mighty, "shall the wilderness and the solitary place be glad; and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose."

In conclusion, it but remains for us to open our necrological table and make the first entry therein. The message has been sent to us that during the past year four of our co laborers in the work of the ministry have fallen asleep in Jesus. The Rev. John Lantz, the Rev. Daniel Zacharias, D. D., the Rev. Theobald Fouse, and the Rev. John W. Hoffmeier, have passed from the conflicts of the Church militant to the glories of the Church triumphant. Each one of these brethren fell at his post of duty, and has left behind the record of a long life, faithfully and devotedly spent in the service of the Redeemer. May we, who tarry yet for a season to bear the burden and heat of the day, "follow their faith, that we may enter at death into their joy; and so abide with them in rest and peace, till both they and we shall reach our common consummation of redemption and bliss in the glorious resurrection of the last day."

And, "now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. PETERS,
W. C. CREMER,
J. S. SHADE,
LOUIS MARKELL,
J. T. ANKENY.

} Committee.

(For Statistical Tables, see Appendix.)

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Education submitted its annual report, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is follows:

The Board of Education, elected at the organization of Synod at Frederick City, Md., April 22d, 1873, organized by electing Rev. P. S. Davis, *President*, Rev. I. G. Brown, *Secretary*, and Elder David C. Hammond, *Treasurer*.

A second meeting was held in June last. The Board felt embarrassment in its entire want of any instructions, and in view of the vastness of its labors; feeling that the whole educational interests of Synod were committed to its care. Without funds, and considering the vastness of the work and field, the great want of active ministers, the large number of vacant charges, the small number preparing for the ministry, the Board felt constrained and authorized to commence its work by using the means most available. They accordingly overtured the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, if within their ability, and without any pecuniary liability to the Synod, to take such action as might inaugurate the work of Theological Instruction to such students as might offer, under the direction and control of this Board. In compliance with this overture the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, in connection with the Faculty of said College—two members of which were formerly Teachers of Theology under the authority of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States—have inaugurated a Post-Graduate Course in connection with Mercersburg College, and have now four students under theological instruction, without any cost to this Board, and these students have instruction and boarding free.

Your Board propose to make some change in the management of the beneficiary interests, and would report a copy of a Bond received from Mercersburg Classis—a copy of which is hereunto attached. Your Board approve of said form, as the Bond to be given by all Beneficiary Students.

Your Board propose to manage the finances of this department in a business way. And as they do not feel like assuming for themselves, or this Synod, obligations without some resources, would recommend, that the subject of Beneficiary Education be earnestly brought before each congregation by its respective pastor.

There has been no official notice of the transfer of beneficiary students to this Board by any of the Classes. Your Board would recommend that such transfer of the beneficiaries be made, and that the ministry be earnestly requested to interest themselves in impressing

young men with their duty in this regard. All of which is respectfully submitted.

P. S. DAVIS,
I. G. BROWN,
J. S. FOULK,
J. S. KIEFFER,
J. HEYSER,
F. M. MCKEEHAN,
D. C. HAMMOND.

The following is the Form of Bond as adopted by the Mercersburg Classis, and also adopted by the Synod, with a single slight amendment:

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS,

That I, W. I. S., of the County of Franklin and State of Pennsylvania, am held and firmly bound unto Rev. D. Y. H., President, Rev. W. M. D., Stated Clerk, and Rev. W. M. D., Treasurer of Mercersburg Classis, in trust for the Mercersburg Classis of the Reformed Church in the United States, in the sum of one thousand dollars, good and lawful money of the United States, to be paid to the said D. Y. H., W. M. D., and W. M. D., their certain attorney, or their successors in office, to which payment well and truly to be made, in consideration of the money that has already been advanced to me and is promised to be furnished to me from time to time, I do hereby bind myself, my heirs, executors, and administrators firmly by these presents.

Sealed with my seal, and dated this 27th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three.

The Conditions of the above obligation are such, That if the above bounden W. I. S. shall conduct himself as becomes a student of the Holy Ministry, and shall not abandon the object of the ministry during his Collegiate and Seminary course, and shall enter upon the active duties of the ministry in connection with the Reformed Church in the United States, and continue therein for a period of five years, or should he die whilst a student engaged in his studies or in the active duties of the ministry, then this obligation shall be null and void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and effect to the extent of the moneys paid him by the Mercersburg Classis, or paid for the Classis to him by persons authorized so to do, with legal interest thereon from the actual time of payment, and all costs for recovering the moneys for which this bond is given.*

W. I. S. { SEAL. }

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the }
presence of J. M. }

* The Synod here inserted in its own Bond the clause—"or become disabled in the opinion of the Board."

For the true observance of the above contract or bond, we J. H. and J. B. G., do hereby bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, and every of them, unto the said D. Y. H., President, W. M. D., Stated Clerk, and W. M. D., Treasurer of Mercersburg Classis, their certain attorney, or their successors in office, to the extent of the moneys paid the aforesaid W. I. S. by the Mercersburg Classis, or paid for the Classis to him by per-sons authorized so to do, with legal interest thereon from the actual time of payment, and all costs for recovering the moneys for which the above Board is given.

The Condition of this obligation is such, That if the said W. I. S. shall and do, in all things, well and truly observe, fulfill, and keep the Covenant aforesaid, which on his part and behalf is to be observed and kept, according to the true intent and meaning of the same, as mentioned in the above written Bond, then this obligation to be void, or else to be and remain in full force and virtue.

In witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 27th day of October, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seventy-three.

J. H.

SEAL.

J. B. G.

SEAL.

Signed, sealed, and delivered in the
presence of J. M.
W. D. }

The following resolutions were adopted in connection with the adoption of the Report of the Board of Education :

Resolved, That we approve of the action of the Board of Education in so far as it bears upon imparting Theological instruction to such persons whose services are needed in carrying forward the educational work of Mercersburg College ; and that we hereby give said Board discretionary power to act in exceptional cases as they may occur.

Resolved, That the above Resolution is not to be construed as determining the policy of the Synod in the matter of establishing a Theological Seminary within its bounds, such determination being left for future contingencies.

Resolved, That the Board of Education be instructed to attend the examination of the students receiving Theological instruction at Mercersburg College.

ELECTION OF BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The following individua's were elected the Board of Education for the current year, viz. : Rev. I. G. Brown, P. S. Davis, J. S. Foulk, J. S. Kieffer, and Elders J. Heyser, D. C. Hammond, and F. M. McKeenan.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

The Board of Missions appointed at the organization of the Synod submitted the following report, which was received and referred to the Committee on Missions :

TO THE SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Fathers and Brethren : The Board of Missions which you selected at the organization of the Synod at Frederick City last spring, were substantially the same, with one or two exceptions, that had been selected by the Synod of the U. S., when as yet we were a part of that body. The Executive Committee being the same, it was concluded best to conduct missions on the territory of both Synods as one board, and with but one Treasury.

We, during the year, have acted in the expectation, that, after this fall meeting of the different Synods in the east, there would be united action in the cause of Missions, as proposed by the Committee of Conference. And until then your Board of Missions and that of the Synod of the U. S., should act as one.

We submit herewith the report, which we made to the Synod of the U. S., held in Bloomsburg, Pa., together with the report of our Treasurer.—These, if you desire, can be read—but in that case we do not think it desirable that they should be engrossed in your proceedings in-as-much as they will be published in the Minutes of the Synod of the U. S.

The following are the amounts received and disbursed by the Treasurer.

Received from the churches generally,	\$3707.30
Received from the Sunday-schools, whose names are on a Roll of Honor,	891.46
	<hr/>
	Total \$4598.76
Paid out per orders of the Board,	4489.30
	<hr/>
	Balance \$109.46

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER,
Pres. of B. H. Missions.

The reading of the report was then called for : it was read and referred to the Committee on Missions. On motion, the Stated Clerk was instructed not to engross the reports of the President or Treasurer of the Board of Missions, as made to the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE OF CONFERENCE.

The following report of the Committee of Conference with similar Committees appointed by the Synods of the United States and Pittsburgh was read and then referred to the Committee of Missions :

TO THE REVEREND SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC :

The Conference invited by the appointment of a special Committee at your meeting at Frederick City, to confer with similar representatives from the Synod of the United States and the Synod of Pittsburgh, was held, in which the three Synods were duly represented.

The Conference met at Lancaster, Pa., August 28th, and adjourned to York, Pa., September 30th, 1873.

After carefully canvassing the whole subject of Home Missions, it was unanimously agreed, that an organic Union in the work of Missions is desirable, and respectfully recommend to each of the Synods represented the following preamble and resolutions for their adoption :

In-as-much as the General Synod's Board of Missions has been practically inoperative for several years past, and inasmuch as the different Synods of the Reformed Church do not judge it best at present, to carry on the work of Missions through the General Synod of the Reformed Church of the United States; the Synod of the United States, the Synod of Pittsburgh, and the Synod of the Potomac, fully persuaded of the advantages of united hearty action in the good and pressing cause, hereby agree among themselves in the following articles for jointly carrying forward this blessed work.

I. OF COMMITTEES OR BOARDS OF MISSIONS.

Each District Synod shall elect a Committee or Board of Missions.

II. OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL.

As soon as possible after the election of these boards, they shall hold a joint meeting at such time and place as may be agreed upon by their respective Chairmen, and elect from their number four persons who shall be members of an Executive Council, the duties of which are hereinafter specified.

III. OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF MISSIONS.

There shall be a Superintendent of Missions, who shall have the general oversight of the work as carried forward by the several Synods co-operating.

At the joint meeting of the Boards of Missions, they shall elect a general Treasurer, who shall receive and disburse all funds upon approval by the Executive Council of warrants countersigned by the Superintendent.

The authority of the Executive Council shall be general; they shall be the Counsellors of the General Superintendent, and through him carry into execution in an efficient manner what is determined

upon by the joint meetings of the Boards ; they shall have authority to act directly upon all such matters as may demand action, during the interim between the meetings of the Boards.

The Superintendent shall be ex-officio a member of the Executive Council as well as of the several Boards of Missions, and of the same when assembled in joint meeting.

Whenever an election is required, the Executive Council shall nominate to the several Synods, one or more suitable persons for the office of Superintendent, and the vote of a majority of the Synods shall be sufficient to elect.

In case of a vacancy in the Superintendency, the Executive Council shall have power to fill the same temporarily, until the next annual meeting of the Synods, when they shall nominate one or more candidates for election by the Synods.

The term of office of the Superintendent shall be four years, and he may be re-elected if it is thought proper.

The term of office of the members of the Boards and of the Executive Council shall also be four years, but the Synods may, if they choose, elect a portion of their Boards annually, and the Boards in the same way may provide for the election of members of the Executive Council at their joint meetings.

The particular duties of the General Superintendent, his salary, &c., shall be determined by the Executive Council.

The Superintendent shall present an annual Report to each of the District Synods.

The Committee or Board of each District Synod shall devise such plans and means, as they shall provide within themselves, for promoting the cause of Missions, within the bounds of their Synod, such as organizing Missionary Societies, holding Missionary Conventions, securing funds, and taking the general oversight of the Missionary cause, so far as not provided for by, or may not interfere with the duties of the Executive Council and General Superintendent.

There shall be at least one annual joint meeting of the several Boards, which shall be held shortly before the yearly meetings of the Synods, with special reference to presenting the work of the past, and suggesting that of the coming year in proper form, as brought before them in the report of the Superintendent. All matters not determined by the action of the Synodical Boards, shall be passed on at this meeting.

These are presented for adoption as general articles of agreement, by the respective Synods. It is believed that they are sufficient to inaugurate and carry forward the work of Missions with new vigor and greater efficiency. They may be improved and amended from time to time by the action of the Synods, and they may be supplemented by the different Boards and the Executive Council, in reference to such points as are not here provided for.

The Conference presents the name of Rev. F. K. Levan of the Pittsburgh Synod, as a suitable person for the office of General Superintendent of Missions, and respectfully asks that an election be held in his case.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *President.*

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Secretary.*

III. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions, to whom the foregoing documents were referred, submitted their report. It was received, taken up item by item, adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Missions respectfully report as follows : But two documents have been placed in our hands.

1. The first is the Report of Synod's Board of Missions.

From this report we are greatly rejoiced to learn that the Board have carried forward the missionary work of the Church with great energy and zeal. The heavy debt resting upon the Board has been liquidated, and all the Missionaries paid in full, up to the first of the present month, leaving a small balance of \$109.46 in the Treasury. For this result we should be devoutly thankful to the great Head of the Church ; and under God, we think the members of our Board deserve our special thanks for their self-denial and faithfulness in carrying forward the work committed to their care.

That there may be entire co-operation in this work, we recommend that the Classes under this Synod, dissolve their Boards, as soon as practicable, that the weak congregations within the Classes be fostered by means of sustentation funds, and that all missionary operations be carried forward by the Synod's Board.

2. The second paper is a plan for the Organic Union and co-operation, in the Missionary work, proposed by the Committee of Conference, appointed by this Synod at Frederick, to confer with similar Committees by the Synods of the United States, and of Pittsburgh.

This plan is cordially recommended by us for adoption by this Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

M. KIEFFER, *Chairman.*

Agreeably to the recommendation of the Conference, Rev. F. K. Levan of the Pittsburgh Synod was chosen as General Superintendent of Home Missions.

In reference to the recommendation of the General Synod, to all the pastors and congregations of the Reformed Church in the United States, to co-operate with the German Evangelical Missionary Society of the United States, in the work of Foreign Missions, Synod adopted the following preamble and resolution.

WHEREAS, The General Synod's Board of Foreign Missions has inaugurated measures to send out a missionary, therefore,

Resolved, That our collections for Foreign Missions be paid to the Treasurer of the General Synod's Board.

IV. ELECTION OF BOARD OF MISSIONS.

The following individuals were elected Synod's Board of Missions, viz. : Rev. E. R. Eschbach, J. O. Miller, W. K. Zieber, W. R. H. Deatrich, and Elders W. A. Wilt, G. S. Griffith and Henry Wirt.

On motion, the Board of Missions was directed to determine, at its first meeting, which of its members shall serve for one year, which for two years, which for three years, and which for four years.

A telegram from Rev. F. Fox, Rev. J. H. Krüger and Rev. J. Mühlhaupt, missionaries on the Pacific coast, was received on the afternoon of the second day's session, sending greetings to Synod, which elicited the following action :

Resolved, That the President of Synod be instructed to respond by letter to this telegram, giving these brethren words of cheer.

Resolved, further, That we also give them material aid.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to solicit voluntary contributions for this purpose, the funds to be paid within thirty days.

Rev. J. Crawford, J. C. Hensell, and Elder J. P. Reed were appointed the Committee called for in the last resolution. Subsequently the Committee reported, that they had secured \$128.75 in cash, for this object. Synod ordered these funds to be handed to the President, of the Board of Missions to be remitted to the Missions in California.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his report, which was received, and referred to the Committee on Finance. The report is as follows :

Louis Markell, Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac, Reformed Church.

1873.	DR.	
May 21.	To cash received of Rev. H. St. J. Rinker, Treasurer of Virginia Classis.....	\$35 00
May 29.	To cash received of Rev. G. W. Welker, Treas- urer of North Carolina Classis.....	30 00
Sept. 23.	To cash received of Rev. S. S. Miller, Treasurer of Maryland Classis.....	112 00
Oct. 10.	To cash received of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of Mercersburg Classis.....	112 00
		<hr/>
		\$289.00

1873.

CR.

Oct. 10.	By cash paid Rev. Wm. M. Deatruck, salary as Stated Clerk of Synod.....	75 00
	Balance in Treasury.....	214 00
		<hr/>
		\$289.00

Due Synod from Zion's Classis \$112.00.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

The Committee on Finance would report :

That they are somewhat embarrassed to know what amount should be named by this Synod, to meet its necessary expenses during the coming year. They assume, however, that \$400.00, together with the amount in the Treasury, and yet due Synod, will be sufficient for this purpose. They accordingly recommend the apportionment of that sum among the several Classes as follows, viz. :

Zion's Classis,	\$112 00
Maryland Classis,.....	112 00
Mercersburg Classis,.....	112 00
Virginia Classis,	35 00
North Carolina Classis,.....	30 00
	<hr/>
	\$401 00

They have also examined the Treasurer's Report, and find it correct—with a balance on hand of \$214 00—and with \$112.00 due from Zion's Classis.

Respectfully submitted.

F. A. RUPLEY,	} Committee.
JAMES CRAWFORD,	
JNO. P. REED,	

Zion's Classis referred the apportionment of \$200.00 upon said Classis, by the Board of Education of the Synod in the United States, to liquidate the indebtedness of that Board, to the Synod of the Potomac.

This item was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Rev. J. O. Miller, E. E. Higbee, and S. N. Callender.

This committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

The committee to whom was referred item 4 of Requests from the Report on the Classical Minutes, having reference to the Classis

Zion, and an apportionment made upon it for the indebtedness of the Beneficiary Board of Education of the Synod of the United States—together with certain resolutions and amendments before the Synod yesterday, report the following paper on the general subject involved:

In view of the fact, that claims are made upon the Classes constituting the Synod of the Potomac, to aid in liquidating a debt contracted by the Beneficiary Board prior to the organization of the Synod of the Potomac; and, WHEREAS, there is a beneficiary fund from which moneys were and are now derived for Beneficiary Education, which fund belonged to the whole Synod, then embracing the new Synod of the Potomac, upon which this Synod regards itself as still having just claims; therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee of Conference be and hereby is appointed by the Synod of the Potomac to confer with the Synod of the United States, with instructions to request that Synod to liquidate our share of this debt assessed upon the Classes of the Synod of the Potomac, with its proper share of the interests derived from the Old Beneficiary fund.

Resolved, further, That this committee be instructed to bring to the notice of the Synod of the United States, the great necessity of the two Synods coming to a clear and fixed understanding of the relation which the two Synods sustain to these funds, which were held by the Church in common prior to the organization of the Synod of the Potomac.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER,	} Committee.
E. E. HIGBEE,	
S. N. CALLENDER,	

The committee called for in the foregoing resolutions, consists of Rev. D. Y. Heisler, F. A. Rupley, and Elder G. S. Griffith.

A communication was received from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, held at Bloomsburg, Pa., in reply to the overture from this Synod, that said Synod assume the assessment of \$335.00 upon the "Proposed New Synod," by the General Synod of Cincinnati, and also exonerate the several Classes of this Synod from the payment of five-ninths of the assessments for Contingent purposes, made by the Synod of Martinsburg in 1872.

This communication informs the Synod of the Potomac, that the Synod of the United States assumes the payment of \$335.00 assessed for Contingent purposes by the General Synod upon the Proposed New Synod—the Synod of the Potomac,—and, further, that the Synod of the United States declines to grant the exoneration of five-ninths of the assessments for contingent purposes made by the Synod of the United States, held at Martinsburg, West Virginia, in October 1872.

The Stated Clerk was instructed to all the attention of the several Classes of this Synod to the action of the Synod of the United States in regard to this matter.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

The Committee on Overtures reported a Complaint from Elder John Z. Smith against certain action of a special meeting of Mercersburg Classis, held in Bedford, Pa., October 2d, 1873. This item was referred to a Committee consisting of Rev. J. O. Miller, W. Goodrich, A. R. Kremer, and Elders L. Markell and J. W. Messersmith, to examine whether the complaint be in order, and if found in order, to report the manner in which it is to be taken up.

This committee subsequently submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

The Committee to whom was referred the Complaint of John Z. Smith, a delegate of the Woodcock Valley charge, against certain action of the Mercersburg Classis, report :

That they have examined the papers referred to them, and heard the parties in the case: from which they learn, that the Complaint is unconstitutional, inasmuch as it is affirmed by members of Classis, that no notice of said complaint was given to the Classis before its rising—and in consequence no notice of such complaint is found on the face of the minutes of said Classis. Hence the complaint is out of order, and we therefore recommend that said complaint be dismissed.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER,	} Committee.
W. GOODRICH,	
A. R. KREMER,	
LOUIS MARKELL,	
J. W. MESSERSMITH,	

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That an additional Board be established, to be called the Sunday-School Board of the Potomac Synod, to which shall be committed the interests of the Sunday-School work within the bounds of this Synod; said Board to consist of five members, one of whom shall be elected annually.

Resolved, further, That the President of Synod be directed at this

time to appoint said Board, one member to serve for one year, one for two years, one for three years, one for four years, and one for five years.

The Sunday School Board, as appointed by the President and approved by Synod, consists of Rev. James Crawford for five years, Rev. J. W. Santee for four years, Rev. J. S. Foulk for three years, Elder F. M. McKeehan for two years, and Elder G. S. Griffith for one year.

The following resolution was subsequently adopted :

Resolved, That Friday evening, October 23d, of the next annual meeting of Synod, be set apart for the discussion of topics connected with the Sunday-School work, and that the arrangements for this meeting be committed to the Sunday-School Board of the Synod.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Committee appointed at the Synod of Organization, to act in conjunction with similar committees from the other two Eastern District Synods, to determine the boundaries between the three Eastern District Synods, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, and the committee was continued:

TO THE REVEREND SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Your committee appointed to confer with committees from the "Synod in the United States," and the "Synod of Pittsburgh," on defining the boundaries of the several Eastern Synods, beg leave to report, that, inasmuch as the Synod of Pittsburgh had no opportunity of appointing its committee in time to hold such conference before the meeting of this Synod, we have not as yet been able to do any thing in the work for which we have been appointed.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETERS,
F. A. RUPLEY.

The Stated Clerk reported, that he had transmitted, as instructed, to Rev. Dr. A. H. Kremer, Chairman of the Commission from the Synod of the United States, a certified copy of the action of this Synod in regard to the overture from that Synod.

Agreeably to the request of the General Synod in the matter of union between the Reformed Church in America and the Reformed Church in the United States, that each District Synod appoint a committee of three to confer with a committee of the Reformed Church in America, Synod appointed the following committee, consisting of Rev. J. O. Miller, E. R. Eschbach, and Elder I. Laucks.

The following committee, consisting of Rev. E. E. Higbee, S. N. Callender, and Elder J. Heyser, was appointed to aid in drafting a new Constitution, agreeably to the direction of the General Synod.

The Classes were directed to insert an additional column in their statistical tables for the number of students preparing for the Holy Ministry, as directed by the General Synod.

A communication was received from the Synod of the United States, stating that it had referred to the Maryland Classis the subject of certain interests of said Synod in church property in Washington City, D. C.

The attention of the Maryland Classis was directed to this matter.

The Maryland Classis having referred the organization of the German brethren within its bounds into a Classis to this Synod, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That this Synod inform the German Brethren, that the same authority given to them to form a Classis by the Martinsburg Synod, is continued to them by the Synod of the Potomac.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, Many of the Charters of our congregations are not in harmony with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States, therefore ;

Resolved, That the Classes within the bounds of this Synod be directed to see to it, that the charters of congregations harmonize with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to have one thousand copies of the Minutes of Organization and of the present sessions duly authenticated, published, in the same size and form as the Minutes of the Synod of the United States—the Minutes of Organization in their running order, and of this meeting in *Lemmata* form—and distribute them amongst those entitled to receive them.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Report of Board of Trustees of Synod.

The Board of Trustees of Synod submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

CHAMBERSBURG, PA., October 24, 1873.

The Board of Trustees of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States beg leave to report, that they have adopted as the device for the seal, a cross with the legend : 'Ο ἔχων τὸν Υἱόν, ἔχει τὴν ζωήν—He that hath the Son, hath life, 1 John 5: 12; and the words, "The Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church, U. S., 1873." This seal has been engraved under the superintendence of Elder Edward J. Zahm, of Lancaster, Pa., and is presented to the Synod with the fraternal greetings of that brother.

They have decided upon the form of an Act of Incorporation, which they will endeavor to secure from both the Legislatures of Pennsylvania and Maryland at their next sessions. They present along with this report, a copy of this act of incorporation for the inspection and approval of the Synod.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

LEWIS H. STEINER,
LOUIS MARKELL,
WILLIAM HEYSER,
J. O. MILLER,
S. N. CALLENDER.

Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., Elders Louis Markell and Wm. Heyser, and Rev. J. O. Miller and S. N. Callender were re-elected Trustees of Synod.

The copy of the act of incorporation was referred for examination to a special committee, consisting of Rev. W. K. Zieber, and Elders J. P. Reed and P. B. Mikesell.

This committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

The special committee to which was referred for examination the proposed act of incorporation of the Trustees of the Synod of the Potomac, respectfully reports, that we have examined said document, find it carefully prepared, and adapted to our wants.

Two verbal additions are needed to make this proposed charter more complete, viz.: 1st on page 1, line 5, insert the word "devises" between the words "donations" and "bequests," so as to read "dona-

tions, devises and bequests." 2d on page 1, line 6, insert the word "lands" before the word "moneys," so as to read "to be possessed of lands and moneys."

With these additions, we recommend the adoption of the following resolution :

Resolved, That the committee by which the act of incorporation was prepared, be instructed to secure its passage by the Legislature of Pennsylvania.

Respectfully submitted,

W. K. ZIEBER,
JNO. P. REED,
PETER B. MIKESELL, } *Committee.*

CHAMBERSBURG, PA., }
October, 1873. }

In regard to the seal of Synod, the following resolution of thanks was unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be tendered, by the Synod of the Potomac, to Elder Edward J. Zahm, for the present of the seal and press to this Synod.

The following statement was received from the "Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church," and ordered to be incorporated in the Minutes.

Annual Statement of the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows.

The Society for the Relief of Ministers and their Widows of the Reformed Church in the United States, has instructed the undersigned to present to the Synod of the Potomac, a statement of its financial condition and its benevolent operations, with the request that the statement be put on record.

The Society is at present extending relief to eleven widows of Reformed Ministers. Of these, the greater number are the widows of ministers who were never members of the Society. We are also aiding in the support of two disabled ministers of our Church.

The invested funds have been slowly increasing from year to year, owing chiefly to the fact that our ministers and consistories generally have been taking a more lively interest in our operations, and have presented the matter to the people, who have responded by contributing freely to this cause. The amount now invested is twelve thousand seven hundred and fifty dollars; and we have a balance in hand sufficient to pay the annuities which have been voted at our annual meeting held yesterday and to-day.

The number of indigent widows of ministers is continually increasing; and the applications for relief are proportionably more numerous and pressing. The Society aims at meeting all these demands as

far as practicable. To do this, it is self-evident, that we must greatly enlarge our resources.

We, therefore, beg that the Synod of Potomac commend this charitable institution to the confidence and support of the churches. The Society suggests also, that the Synod appoint the third Sunday in June as a suitable time when pastors shall give an opportunity to the people to make a contribution to its funds.

October 25th, 1873.

E. V. GERHART, *President*.

It was,

Resolved, That in compliance with the suggestion contained in the above statement, this Society be commended to the confidence and support of our churches, and that it be recommended to all our congregations to lift one collection in the month of June, so far as practicable, in aid of said society.

Resolved, further, That the attention of the several Classes be directed to this subject.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon the members of Synod for defraying the local expenses incident to the present sessions. The Rev. D. Y. Heisler, and Elders E. Williard and D. Dunn were appointed the Committee to collect said assessment, who submitted the following report:

The Committee appointed to take up a collection for the sexton of the Church would report, that they have attended to their duty and realized the sum of \$17.35.

D. Y. HEISLER, *Chairman*.

The report was received and adopted, and the amount ordered to be paid to Sexton Swert.

Agreeably to an invitation received from Rev. Dr. Archibald, President of Wilson Female College, located in the immediate vicinity of Chambersburg, the Synod visited said Institute in a body on Saturday forenoon.

The Committee on Overtures reported a letter from Rev. Daniel Ziegler, D. D., asking to be excused for non-attendance upon the present meeting in consequence of affliction.

The letter was read and the request granted. It was also

Resolved, That we as a Synod express our sincere sympathy with this father in his afflictions, which have prevented his attendance upon Synod.

Report of Committee on Correspondence with Sister Churches.

The Committee on Correspondence with Sister Churches submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee on Correspondence with Sister Denominations, state that no papers or business of any kind have come into our hands, hence report no business.

A. WANNER, *Chairman*.

On the morning of the fourth day of the sessions, the Committee on Nominations presented their report. It was received, amended and adopted. The election was held on the last day of the session, and the Stated Clerk was instructed to have a sufficient number of copies of the Nominations printed for the use of Synod. Elders Prof. G. N. Abbott and L. Markell, were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted them, and furnished the President with the result. The result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of the several Boards.

The Stated Clerk of Synod was instructed to procure a suitable *Minute Book* and keep a *Manuscript Record* of the Acts and Proceedings of Synod.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the attention of the Classes be called to the importance of having their statistical reports full and complete, and that the subject be brought to the notice of all our pastors.

ARTICLE XXII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That having enjoyed the marked kindness of the members of the Reformed congregation and other churches and citizens of Chambersburg, this Synod shall bear in grateful remembrance their Christian hospitality, and pray that the blessings of His grace, Who has said, "In-as-much as ye have done it unto these my brethren, ye have done it unto Me," may abundantly rest upon them and their families.

Resolved, That the *Pastor loci* be requested to read this resolution of thanks from the pulpit of this church, and send a transcript thereof to the other pastors of the place, with a request to read it to their people.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to return the thanks of this Synod to the following Railroad Companies : Cumberland Valley, Northern Central, Baltimore and Ohio, Western Maryland, Frederick and Pennsylvania State Line, and Orange and Alexandria, for passing its members over their respective roads at reduced rates.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be directed to return the thanks of this Synod to Mr. M. A. Foltz for services gratuitously rendered in the way of printing.

The roll was called and none were found absent without permission.

The Minutes were read and adopted, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIII.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be in convention—to be composed of all the ministers within the bounds of Synod, and one elder from each charge.

Resolved, That we adjourn to meet again in annual sessions in the Reformed Church of Hanover, York County, Pa., on Wednesday, the 21st of October, A. D., 1874, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Adjourned with singing the Gloria in Excelsis, repetition of the Apostles' Creed and Lord's Prayer, Doxology and the Apostolic benediction by the President.

E. R. ESCHBACH, *President*.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Official copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

CLASSIS OF ZION.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. S. Schols.	Benef.	Contribu'ts.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.		
Daniel Ziegler,	3 York (German),	684	285	68	12	7	380			30	4	260	\$97 00	York, York	County, Pa.	
Jacob Sechler,	3 Manheim,	390	160	40	22		370			16	6	220	130 00	Hanover, York	do	
F. W. Vandersloot,	3 Mt. Pleasant,	270	150	15	12		100			17	3			York, York	do	
Daniel Riegel,	2 Dillsburg,	250	196	28	20		185			11	2			Dillsburg, York	do	
Jacob Ziegler,	4 Paradise,	600	510				575			8		350		York, York	do	
David Bossler,	Without charge,													York, York	do	
Jacob O. Miller,	1 Trinity Church, York,	320	317				280			3		416		York, York	do	
Daniel Gring,	6 Shrewsbury,	485	275	57	44		457			26	8	300	223 86	Shrewsbury, York	do	
William K. Zieber,	1 Hanover,	298	250	24	25	6	250		6	7	1	190	499 80	Hanover, York	do	
W. R. H. Deatrich,	2 Mechanicsburg,	330	225	27	20	7	280		11	8	2	140	345 00	Mechanicsburg, Cumberl'd	do	
	2 Gettysburg,	320	172	46	23	25	314		10	17	1	132	207 00	Gettysburg, Adams	do	
Jacob D. Zehring,	4 Emanuel's,	695	370	72	59	5	661		5	28	10	270	150 00	Codorus, York	do	
David W. Wolf,	3 Conowingo,	445	200	31	10	3	328		7	23	5		70 00	Arendaville, Adams	do	
R. R. Smith,	4 Dallastown,	168	84	17	3	6	83		3	1	3	83	36 17	York, York	do	
John S. Foulk,	1 Carlisle,	201	173	11	3	5	162		3	4	1	140	70 00	Carlisle, Cumberland	do	
John Ault,	4 Christ's Church,	666	450				550			3		300	10 00	Littlestown, Adams	do	
Aaron Wanner,	1 Heidelberg, do	118	160	15	10		85		4	1	166		120 00	York, York	do	
Aaron Spangler,	5 Abbottstown,	610	500	67	12		560		4	22	5	380	120 00	New Oxford, Adams	do	
James Crawford,	3 New Bloomfield,	315	169	13	20	8	300			3	3	360	140 23	Newport, Perry	do	
Suppl'd by R. R. Smith,	4 Trinity charge,	267	215	35			109		1	14	3	251	129 16	Blain, Perry	do	
F. S. Lindaman,	3 Zion's,	375	300	31	48	5	310			1	6	70	25 00	Duncannon, Perry	do	
Henry Wissler,	4 Duncannon,	100	81	9	1	4	88			7	4	200	68 45	Landisburg, Perry	do	
Lewis D. Steckel,	4 Landisburg,	315	200	6	7		200			3	1	12	30 00			Cal.
Supplied by D. W. Wolf,	4 York Springs,	235	150				190			2	1					do
do Foulk and Ault,	3 Sulphur Springs,	140	90	2	1		115			6	2	60				do
do F. S. Lindaman,	1 St. Andrew's Cong.,	14	20	2			12			3	1	12				do
do A. Wanner,	1 Mt. Zion Cong.,	52	65							2	1	70				do
Frederick Fox,	1 Napa City,													Napa City,	Cal.	
J. H. Kruger,	1 1st Ch., San Fran.,													San Francisco,	do	
J. Mülhaupt,	1 Stockton,													Stockton,	do	
Total, 24.		8663	5827	616	352	81	6944		54	259	92	4599	\$2351 67			

Licentiate.

Harry M. Kieffer, Norris'own, Pa.

Students for the Ministry, 5.

CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconbr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	A. M. Sch's.	Beney. Contribu'rs.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Joseph W. Santee,	4 Cavetown,	392	195	33	12	365	365		1	6	4	160	\$60 00	Cavetown, Washington Co., Md.
George L. Staley, D. D.,	1 Knoxville, Supply,	26	13	3	1	20	20							Knoxville, Frederick do
Frederick A. Rupley,	1 Middletown,	340	300	27	8	5 300	5 300		7	13	1	250	173 00	Middletown, Frederick do
Edmund R. Eschbach,	1 1st Reformed Church,	190	105	12	10	2 145	2 145		13	1	220		251 51	208 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, do
Marcus Baehman,	1 5th Reformed Church,	498	315	124	36	30 480	30 480		17	54	1	375	208 00	127 Bank St., Baltimore, do
Nicholas E. Gilds,	4 Mechanicstown,	390	195	24	3	1 270	1 270		6	6	2	138	65 00	Mechanicsville, Frederick Co., do
William Goodrich,	2 Clearspring,	150	120	17	2				5	10	2	150	70 00	Clearspring, Washington do
Jacob Pieter,	Without charge,													
Simon S. Miller,	4 Jefferson,	382	319	14	23	1 360	1 360			4	4	300	139 68	Jefferson, Frederick do
J. Spangler Kieffer,	2 Hagerstown,	246	210	6	18	225	225		11	13	1	250	529 84	Hagerstown, Washington do
Abner K. Kremer,	2 Emmittsburg,	346	260	14	5	3 260	3 260		1	7	2	150	80 00	Emmittsburg, Frederick do
William C. Cremer,	3 Westminster,	530	410	46	48	4 480	4 480		2	2	2	250	50 00	Westminster, Carroll do
W. Augustus Gring,	3 Mt. Moriah,	196	98	18		2 169	2 169		2	3	3	210	106 00	Keedysville, Washington do
J. Conrad Hauser,	1 6th Reformed Church,	353		59	25	33 186	33 186		5	7	2	301	84 22	183 Saratoga St., Baltimore, do
Daniel Gauss, D. D.,	1 3d Reformed Church,	274	210	19	20	10 230	10 230		3	1	200		226 58	67 N. Paca St., do
Thomas L. Poulson,	1 1st Eng. Ref. Church,	275	200	20	15	10 160	10 160		3	1	200		100 00	73 Aisquith St., do
W. F. Colclough,	1 Christ's Church,	60	45	6	4	11 55	11 55		2	1	55		3 13	Hagerstown, Washington Co., do
J. Mortimer Souder,	7 Glade, Supply,	463	400	43	26	2 380	2 380		4	8	4	175	225 00	Liberty, Frederick do
Herman Biefield,	1 St John's Church,	140		10		120	120			7	1	70	6 17	Frederick City, do
Mortimer L. Shuford,	1 Burkittsville,	82	40			67	67			60	1	280	400 00	Burkittsville, Frederick do
Gotthold Neef,	1 4th Reformed Church,	509		114	58	450	450			17	2	450	603 79	Frederick City, do
Vacant,	1 Ex. Ref. Church,	576	565	33	7	13 500	13 500			28	3		62 00	Taneytown, Carroll do
do	4 Taneytown,	476	449	36		410	410			3	3	130	230 00	Manchester, Carroll do
do	3 Manchester,	363	283	66		350	350		3	3	2			Roonsboro, Washington do
do	2 Boonsboro,	153	95	15	2	3 144	3 144			2	1	40		Washington City, D. C.
do	1 1st Reformed Church,	45		7		70	70							Aintab, Syria.
Benj. Schneider, D. D.,	F. reign Missionary,													Frederick City, Md.
William H. Zimmerman,	Without charge,													
Total, 23.		7338	4884	736	322	130 6185	130 6185		65	345	45	4541	\$3633 92	

Studen's for the Ministry, 1.

CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schol- ars.	Benev. Contribs.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Benj. S. Schneek, D. D., William M. Deatrick, Isaac G. Brown, Nehemiah H. Skyler, Adam C. Whitmer, E. E. Higbee, D. D., Jacob B. Kerchner, Peter S. Davis, D. D., John H. Sykes, Daniel Y. Heisler, Moses Kieffer, D. D., H. H. W. Hilschman, Elias D. Shoemaker, Albert G. Dole, Jeriah S. Shade, Wm. D. Lefevre, John A. Peters, Elias N. Kremer, Ambrose C. Geary, Milton H. Sangree, Henry I. Comfort, " " " " " "	1 St. John's ch., Chamb. 2 Friend's Cove, 3 Mercersburg, 3 Sulphur Springs,* 1 Altoona, 1 College church, 1 Zion's ch., Chamb's g. 2 Martinsburg, 2 Mont Alto, 1 Greencastle, 2 Waynesboro, 2 Yellow Creek, 2 Huntingdon, 4 McConnellsburg, 3 Schellsburg, 3 Waterstreet, 3 Bedford, 4 St. Clairsville, 4 Everett, 4 Grindstonehill, 8 Woodcock Valley, 2 Loudon & St. Thomas, 2 Shippensburg, 4 Greenfield, 1 Middleburg,	39 265 329 350 89 380 205 120 200 354 240 300 400 338 320 334 190 179 637 214 225 300 50	20 265 329 350 5 250 141 85 160 228 193 200 181 380 250 174 151 150 135 229 229 55	6 17 8 42 5 28 16 20 15 35 18 12 30 43 21 18 20 39 28 34 9 41 12 5	3 6 11 17 5 4 13 1 6 10 30 25 16 20 12 8 12 12 19 12 12 2 12 5	2 6 8 57 2 12 7 1 6 7 9 9 25 23 6 23 23 18 39 41 3 2 2 5	37 255 324 225 51 292 196 95 175 235 235 300 146 365 324 275 180 180 164 650 215 215 274 40	7 7 3 1 1 22 1 3 6 12 4 6 3 1 5 14 6 2 2 18 7 11 1	1 2 3 2 1 20 1 18 2 5 2 3 2 10 3 6 3 4 13 4 6 2 2 2 2	\$47 00 230 00 403 03 366 75 503 65 717 00 150 38 125 60 400 00 115 32 367 10 125 00 76 08 133 50 439 54 389 80 179 50 161 00 74 44 408 00 75 00 17 80 152 82	Chambersburg, Franklin Co., Pa. Bedford do Franklin do Bedford do Mann's Choice, Blair do Altoona, Franklin do Mercersburg, do do Chambersburg, Franklin do Martinsburg, Blair do Mont Alto, Franklin do Greencastle, do do Waynesboro, do do Pattonsboro, Bedford do Huntingdon, Huntingdon do McConnellsburg, Fulton do Schellsburg, Bedford do Alexandria, Huntingdon do Bedford, Bedford do St. Clairsville, do do Everett, do do Chambersburg, Franklin do James Creek, Huntingdon do St. Thomas, Franklin do Shippensburg, Cumberland do Sarah, Blair do Middleburg, Franklin do	
Henry Heckerman, George R. Zacharias, Lucian Curt, Wm. C. B. Shulenberger, Henry Miller, Jacob Hassler, John B. Kieffer, George N. Abbott, Total 29.	Superannuated, Disabled, Principal, Juniata Collegiate Institute, Supply, " " Without charge, " " " " Prof. in Mercersburg College, " " " "	66	6197,4713	467,282	184,5525	12,127	189,539	440	\$5655 31	Bedford, Bedford do Upper Strasburg, Franklin do Martinsburg, Blair do Middlebrook, Augusta Co., Va. Waynesboro, Franklin Co., Pa. Mercersburg, do do do do do do do do do do		

* Statistics included in the Schellsburg charge. Students for the Holy Ministry, 12.

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	M. Schools.	M. S. Schls.	Beney. Contribs.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
John C. Hensell,	3 Rockingham,	202	119	3	2	1	161			4	3	150	\$60 00	Mt. Crawford, Rockg'm Co., Va.
Geo. H. Martin,	4 Woodstock,	320		25	28		320			6	1	65	105 00	Woodstock, Shenandoah Co
H. St. J. Rinker,*	4 Mill Creek,	240		12	10		219		5	1			28 54	Hamburg, do
Vacant,	1 Lovettsville,	87	60	2			68						35 00	Lovettsville, Loudon do
Stephen K. Kremer,	1 Martinsburg,	185		18	12	3	175			10	1	136	113 70	Martinsburg, W. do
Vacant,	2 Winchester,	98	60	5	5		91		3	1				Winchester, do
Sam'l N. Callender, D.D.,	2 Mt. Crawford,	186		16	17		174				2		159 00	Harrisonburg, do
Joseph S. Louse,	1 Without charge,	121	40	8	17	4	115		4	12	1	82	81 00	Shepherdstown, do
Joel T. Rossiter,	3 Shepherdstown,	172	225	2			140			1	1	51	12 00	Edenburg, do
Vacant,†	2 Edenburg,	147		3			140						8 38	Middlebrook, do
do †	2 Middlebrook,													
Total, 7.	23	1758	513	92	93	8	1603			12	37	9 478	\$602 42	

D-rectory Students, 2. * Supply.

† Supplied by Rev. H. Tallhelm.

‡ Supplied by Rev. W. C. B. Shulenberger.

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	R. S. Sch's.	Benev. Contrib's.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	N. C.
George W. Walker, Jeremiah Ingold, Thomas Long, Jesse W. Cecil, John Ingle, Jacob C. Clapp, John C. Denny, Peter M. Trexler, M. L. Hedrick, Vacant,	3 Guilford, 4 Grace, 4 Upper Davidson, 1 Without charge, 2 West Rowan, 4 Catawba, 2 East Rowan, 3 Central Rowan, 4 Lower Davidson, 1 Matthew's,	271 174 250 256 250 125 180 125	200 174 175	5 12 12 10 24 60 5 5 50	3 12 6 20 7 18 2 19	3 12 6 20 7 6 2 19	270 174 250	2 2 2	1 3 4 7	2 3 2 1 3 4 1	2 3 2 2 2 1 2 4 1	100	\$250 35 100 00 80 25 50 00	Shaw's Mills, Hickory Tavern, Salcm, Thomasville, China Grove, Newton, Gold Hill, Salisbury, Lexington, Lincolnton,	do do do do do do do do do
Total, 9.	27	1631	807	79	74	81630	2	11	2915	152			\$481 60		

Students for the Ministry, 4.

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SECOND ANNUAL SESSIONS.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Joseph Henry Dutton.

1727 1/2th. Union St.

Philada.

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES.

HANOVER, Pa., October, A. D., 1874.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.:

Reformed Church Publication Board,

No. 907 Arch Street.

1874.

CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconbr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	E. S. Sch's.	Benef.	Contribu'ts.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
Joseph W. Santee,	4 Cavetown,	392	195	33	12	365	365		1	6	4	160	\$60	00	Cavetown, Washington Co., Md.	
George L. Staley, D. D.,	1 Knoxville, Supply,	26	15	3	1	20	20								Knoxville, Frederick do	
Frederick A. Rupley,	1 Middletown,	340	300	27	8	5	300		7	13	1	250	173	00	Middletown, Frederick do	
Edmund R. Eschbach,	1 1st Reformed Church,	190	105	12	10	2	145			13	1	220	251	51	208 N. Calvert St., Baltimore, do	
Marcus Baehman,	1 5th Reformed Church,	498	315	124	36	30	460		17	54	1	375	208	00	127 Bank St., Baltimore, do	
Nicholas E. Gilds,	4 Mechanicstown,	390	195	24	3	1	270		6	6	2	138	65	00	Mechanicstown, Frederick Co., do	
William Goodrich,	2 Clearspring,	150	120	17	2				5	10	2	150	70	00	Clearspring, Washington do	
Jacob Pieter,	Without charge,															
Simon S. Miller,	4 Jefferson,	382	319	14	23	1	360			4	4	300	139	68	Jefferson, Frederick do	
J. Spangler Kieffer,	2 Hagerstown,	246	210	6	18		225		11	13	1	250	529	84	Hagerstown, Washington do	
Abner R. Kremer,	2 Emmittsburg,	346	260	14	5	3	260		1	7	2	150	80	00	Emmittsburg, Frederick do	
William C. Cremer,	3 Westminster,	530	410	46	48	4	480			32	2	250	50	00	Westminster, Carroll do	
W. Augustus Gring,	3 Mt. Moriah,	196	98	18		2	169		2	3	3	210	106	00	Keedysville, Washington do	
J. Conrad Hauser,	1 6th Reformed Church,	353		59	25	33	186			50	1	200	84	22	483 Saratoga St., Baltimore, do	
Daniel Gaus, D. D.,	1 3d Reformed Church,	274	210	19	20	10	230		5	7	2	301	226	58	67 N. Paca St., do	
Thomas L. Poulson,	1 1st Eng. Ref. Church,	275	200	20	15	10	160		3	1	200		100	00	73 Aisquith St., do	
W. F. Colliflower,	1 Christ's Church,	60	45	6	4	11	55			2	1	55	3	13	Hagerstown, Washington Co., do	
J. Mortimer Souder,	7 Glade, Supply,	465	400	43	26	2	380		4	8	4	175	225	00	Liberty, Frederick do	
Herman Biefeld,	1 St John's Church,	140		10		120				7	1	70	6	17	Frederick City, do	
Mortimer L. Shuford,	1 Burkittsville,	82	40			67				60	1	280	400	00	Burkittsville, Frederick do	
Gotthold Neef,	1 4th Reformed Church,	500		114	58	450			17	2	450		603	79	Frederick City, do	
Vacant,	1 Ev. Ref. Church,	576	565	33	7	13	500								Taneytown, Carroll do	
do	4 Taneytown,	470	449			410				28	3		62	00	Manchester, Carroll do	
do	3 Manchester,	363	283	66		350			3	8	2	130	230	00	Boonsboro, Washington do	
do	2 Boonsboro,	153	95	15	2	3	144		3	8	2	140			Washington City, D. C.	
do	1 1st Reformed Church,	45		7		70				2	1				Aintab, Syria.	
Benj. Schneider, D. D.,	Foreign Missionary,														Frederick City, Md.	
William H. Zimmermann,	Without charge,															
Total, 23.		7338	4884	730	322	130	6185		65	345	45	4541			\$3633	92.

Students for the Ministry, 1.

CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schols.	S. Z. Schols.	Benef.	Contribu't.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Benj. S. Schneek, D. D.,	1 St. John's ch., Chamb.	39	20	6	3	2	37	5		1	40		\$47 00	Chambersburg, Franklin Co., Pa.
William M. Deatrick,	2 Friend's Cove,	265	200	17	6	6	255	6	7	2	180		230 00	Charlesville, Bedford do
Isaac G. Brown,	3 Mercersburg,	329	283	8	11	8	324	3	3	3	268		403 03	Mercersburg, Franklin do
Nehemiah H. Skyles,	3 Sulphur Springs,*													Mann's Choice, Bedford do
Adam C. Whitmer,	1 Altoona,	350	225	42	17	57	225	1	8	1	150		366 75	Altoona, Blair do
E. E. Higbee, D. D., }														Mercersburg, Franklin do
Jacob B. Kerschner,	1 College church,	89	5		5	2	51		1				503 65	do do
Peter S. Davis, D. D., }														do do
John H. Sykes,	1 Zion's ch., Chamb'g.	380	250	28	4	12	292	22	20	1	328		717 00	Chambersburg, Franklin do
Daniel Y. Heiser,	2 Martinsburg,	205	141	16	13	7	195	1	1	2	75		150 38	Martinsburg, Blair do
Moses Kieffer, D. D., }	2 Mont Alto,	120	85	20	1	5	95	3	18	3	150		125 60	Mont Alto, Franklin do
H. H. W. Hilschman,	1 Greencastle,	200	160	15	6	2	175	6	2	1	75		400 00	Greencastle, do do
Elias D. Shoemaker,	2 Waynesboro,	354	228	35	10	7	330	12	18	2	170		115 32	Waynesboro, do do
Albert G. Dole,	2 Yellow Creek,	240	195	18	4	235		4	5	2	200		367 10	Pattonsboro, Bedford do
Jeriah S. Shade,	3 Huntingdon,	300	260	12	30	9	300	6	3	2	224		125 00	Huntingdon, Huntingdon do
Wm. D. Lefevre,	4 McConnellsb.,	160	181	10	7	1	146	1	6	2	65		76 08	McConnellsb., Fulton do
John A. Peters,	3 Schellsburg,	400	380	43	25	6	365	5	12	3	130		133 50	Schellsburg, Bedford do
Elias N. Kremer,	3 Waterstreet,	338	250	31	20	5	324	10	14	15	2	150	439 54	Alexandria, Huntingdon do
Ambrose C. Geary,	3 Bedford,	328	250	18	6	2	275	4	10	3			389 80	Bedford, Bedford do
Milton H. Sangree,	4 St. Clairsville,	334	146	16	12	8	232	2	6	3	105		179 50	St. Clairsville, do do
Henry I. Comfort,	4 Everett,	190	150	20	39	12	180	2	4	4	150		161 00	Everett, do do
Vacant,	4 Grindstonehill,	179	151	28	41	19	164	2	13	4	160		74 44	Chambersburg, Franklin do
"	8 Woodcock Valley,	657	650	34	12	3	650	4	18	6	400		408 00	James Creek, Huntingdon do
"	2 Loudon & St. Thomas,	214	135	9	2	2	145	7	2	2	100		75 00	St. Thomas, Franklin do
"	2 Shippensburg,	225	150				215		2	2	150		17 80	Shippensburg, Cumberland do
"	4 Greenfield,	300	229	41	12	5	274	11	17	2	150		152 82	Sarah, Blair do
"	1 Middleburg,	50	55				40							Middleburg, Franklin do
Henry Heckerman,	66	6197	4713	467	282	184	5625	12	127	189	53	3440	\$5655 31	Bedford, Bedford do
George R. Zacharias,	Superannuated,													Upper Strasburg, Franklin do
Lucian Curt,	Disabled,													Martinsburg, Blair do
Wm. C. B. Shulenberger,	Principal, Juniata Collegiate Institute,													Middlebrook, Augusta Co., Va.
Henry Miller,	Supply,													Waynesboro, Franklin Co., Pa.
Jacob Hasslet,	Without charge,													Mercersburg, do do
John B. Kieffer,	"													do do
George N. Abbott,	Prof. in Mercersburg College,													do do
Total 29.	"													do do

* Statistics included in the Schellsburg charge. Students for the Holy Ministry, 12.

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHANGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	N. Schools.	N. & Schls.	Benef.	Contribu's.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
John C. Hensell,	3 Rockingham,	202	119	3	2	1	161			4	3	150	\$600 00	Mt. Crawford, Rockg'm Co., Va.	
Geo. H. Martin,	4 Woodstock,	320		25	28		320			6	1	65	105 00	Woodstock, Shenandoah Co	
H. St. J. Rinker,*	4 Mill Creek,	240		12	10		219		5	1			28 54	Hamburg, do	
Vacant,	1 Lovettsville,	37	60	2			68						35 00	Lovettsville, Loudon do	
Stephen K. Kremer,	1 Martinsburg,	185		18	12	3	175		3	1	136		113 70	Martinsburg, W. do	
Vacant,	2 Winchester,	98	60	5	5		91						159 00	Winchester, do	
Sam'l N. Callender,D.D.	2 Mt. Crawford,	186		16	17		174			1	2			Harrisonburg, do	
Joseph S. Louse,	1 Without charge,								4	12	1	82	81 00	Shepherdstown, do	
Joel T. Rossiter,	3 Shepherdstown,	121	49	8	17	4	115			1	1	50	12 00	Edenburg, do	
Vacant,†	3 Edenburg,	172	220	2			140						8 38	Middlebrook, do	
do †	2 Middlebrook,	147		3			140								
Total, 7.		1758	513	92	63	8	1603		12	37	9	478	\$602 42		

B-refectory Students, 2.

* Supply.

† Supplied by Rev. H. Tallhelm.

‡ Supplied by Rev. W. C. B. Shulenberger.

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	Cong.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	R. S. Sch's.	Contribu'ts.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
George W. Welker, Jeremiah Ingold, Thomas Long, Jesse W. Cecil, John Ingle, Jacob C. Clapp, John C. Denny, Peter M. Trexler, M. L. Hedrick, Vacant,	3 4 4 4 2 4 2 3 4 1	Guilford, Grace, Upper Davidson, Without charge, West Rowan, Catawba, East Rowan, Central Rowan, Lower Davidson, Matthew's,	271 173 174 250 175 256 250 125 180 125	200 174 175 175 175 148 60 60 50	5 12 12 6 10 24 18 5 5 5	3 12 12 6 20 7 5 6 19	3 12 12 6 20 7 5 6 19	270 174 250 256 250 125 180 125	2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	1 3 3 3 1 2 2 2 2	2 3 3 3 9 3 3 4 7	2 3 3 3 2 3 3 4 7	R. S. Sch's.	Benev.	Shaw's Mills, Hickory Tavern, Salem, Thomasville, China Grove, Newton, Gold Hill, Salisbury, Lexington, Lincolnton,
Total, 9.	27		1631	807	79	74	81630	2	11	29	15	152		\$481 60	

Students for the Ministry, 4.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.
Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.		Minist'ers.	Congreg's.	Members.	Unconf'd Members.	Baptism.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sunday School.	S. School Scholars.	Students for Holy Ministry.	Benef. Contribu's.
Zion, Maryland, Mercer-burg, Virginia, North Carolina,		24	79	8,663	5,827	616	352	81	6,944		54	259	92	4,599	5	\$2,351 67
		23	53	7,338	4,884	730	322	130	6,185		65	345	45	4,541	1	3,033 92
		29	66	6,197	4,713	467	282	184	5,525	12	127	189	53	3,440	12	5,655 31
		7	23	1,758	513	92	93	8	1,603		12	37	9	478	2	602 42
		9	27	1,631	807	79	74	8	1,630	2	11	29	15	152	4	481 60
Total, 5 Classes.		92	248	25,587	16,744	1,984	1,123	411	21,887	14	269	859	214	13,210	24	\$12,724 92
Synod of the U. States, 9 Classes.		192	427	64,129	32,914	6,900	3,864	1,414	51,031	1	1,138	3,018	459	27,084	33	41,101 67
Synod of Ohio & Adjacent States, 9 Clas.		132	294	20,765	12,438	1,880	1,400	651	17,652	206	240	585	211	14,491		10,771 56
Synod of the North West, 7 Classes.		120	213	13,332	10,929	1,590	911	569	10,925	53	203	423	138	4,868		7,356 87
Synod of Pittsburg, 6 Classes.		59	133	10,276	8,636	1,944	583	267	8,613	11	137	580	104	5,485		11,157 00
District Synods, 5.		595	1,315	134,929	81,661	14,299	7,881	3,312	110,108	285	1,987	5,465	1,126	65,158	57	\$83,112 20

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Minutes of Synod.—Rev. J. A. Peters, H. St. J. Rinker, I. S. Weisz, and Elders A. R. Schnebley and E. Brandenburg.

Overtures.—Rev. J. W. Santee, O. L. Ashenfelter, H. Tallhelm, and Elders J. Welshans, and W. H. Lakin.

Minutes of Classes.—Rev. A. R. Kremer, J. T. Rossiter, G. H. Martin, and Elders J. Motter and L. Markell.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination.—Rev. E. E. Higbee, J. O. Miller, A. G. Dole, and Elders H. Wirt and J. Rawlings.

State of Religion, and Statistical Reports.—Rev. E. N. Kremer, H. Wissler, J. M. Souder, and Elders S. Sipe and J. Albaugh.

Missions.—Rev. W. C. Cremer, J. Ault, P. S. Davis, and Elders D. A. Bleeker and G. Kann.

Nominations.—Rev. M. Kieffer, S. K. Kremer, D. Y. Heisler, and Elders J. Motter and W. H. Bargelt.

Finance.—Rev. E. R. Eschbach, D. Gans, W. D. Lefevre, and Elders J. P. Reed and J. M. Nicely.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Zion, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, German Maryland, and San Francisco were received, and referred to the Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports, which were referred to the Committee on those subjects.

2. The Report of the Treasurer was read, and then referred to the Committee on Finance.

3. The First Annual Report, the General Superintendent's Report, and the Treasurer's Report of the Board of Missions of the three Eastern District Synods were received, read, and then referred to the Committee on Missions.

4. Eleven other communications were received, and referred to the Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following Religious Services:

1. All the sessions were opened and closed with suitable religious services.

2. The Committee on Religious Services submitted their report, which was received and adopted as follows:

Your Committee respectfully report the following appointments for religious service:

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD.

Thursday evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. A. Peters.

Friday evening.—Synodical Sunday-school service; conducted by Rev. J. Crawford, Chairman of Synod's Sunday-school Board.

Saturday evening.—Service preparatory to the Lord's Supper; sermon by Rev. P. S. Davis.

Sunday morning.—Celebration of the Holy Communion: sermon by Rev. E. E. Higbee.

Sunday afternoon.—Sunday-school service: addresses by Revs. J. Crawford, W. R. H. Deatrich, and S. K. Kremer.

Sunday evening.—Sermon by Rev. D. Gans.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES OF THE PLACE.

St. Matthew's Lutheran Church.—*Saturday afternoon.* Service preparatory to communion. Sermon in German language by Rev. I. S. Weisz.

Sunday morning.—Holy Communion; sermon in German language by Rev. J. W. Santee.

Sunday evening.—Sermon in English language by Rev. E. N. Kremer.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev. O. L. Ashenfelter.

Sunday evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. S. Kieffer.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev. M. Kieffer.

Sunday evening.—Sermon by Rev. A. R. Kremer.

Respectfully submitted.

W. K. ZIEBER, *Chairman.*

The religious services, as appointed by the committee, were severally observed.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of last annual meeting was dispensed with, and the printed Minutes were referred to the Committee on Minutes of Synod, to report the items of unfinished business claiming the attention of this meeting. This Committee submitted the following report, which was received and disposed of item by item.

Your Committee on Minutes of Synod beg leave to offer the following report: the following items claim the attention of this Synod.

Item 1, page 35. The Board of Education of this Synod is instructed to attend the examination of students receiving theological instruction at Mercersburg College.

Item 2, page 42. The appointment of a committee consisting of Revs. D. Y. Heisler, F. A. Rupley, and Elder G. S. Griffith, to confer with the Synod of the United States on the liquidation of our share of indebtedness to the former Board of Beneficiary Education; and to secure a definite understanding of the relation which the mother Synod and this Synod sustain to those funds held in common by the Church prior to the organization of this Synod.

Item 3, page 42. The Stated Clerk is instructed to call the attention of the Classes to the action of the Synod of the United States in declining to exonerate the Classes of this Synod of five-ninths of the assessment for contingent purposes, made by the Synod of Martinsburg in 1872.

Item 4, page 44. Is the appointment of a Sunday-school Board, and setting apart Friday evening of the present sessions of Synod for the discussion of topics connected with the Sunday-school work.

Item 5, page 44. Is the continuance of the committee, consisting of Rev. J. A. Peters, F. A. Rupley, and Elder J. P. Hassler to confer with similar committees from the other two Eastern Synods on Synodical boundaries.

Item 6, page 44. Is the appointment of a committee, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, E. R. Eschbach, and Elder I. Laucks, on the part of this Synod, to confer with a committee from the Reformed Church in America on the question of union with said Church.

Item 7, page 45. Is the appointment of a committee, consisting of Rev. E. E. Higbee, S. N. Callender, and Elder J. Heyser, to aid in drafting a new Constitution.

Item 8, page 45. The Classes are directed to open a column in their statistical tables, showing the number of students preparing for the Holy Ministry.

Item 9, page 45. The attention of Maryland Classis is called to the action of the Synod of the United States in reference to certain interests of said Synod in Church property in Washington, D. C.

Item 10, page 45. The Classes are directed to see that the charters of congregations harmonize with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Item 11, page 45. The Stated Clerk is instructed to have one thousand copies of the Minutes of Synod printed and distributed.

Item 12, page 47. The Committee on Incorporation of Synod is instructed to secure the passage of said act by the Legislature of the State of Pennsylvania.

Item 13, page 48. The attention of the Classes is directed to the cause of the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Item 14, page 49. The attention of the Classes is called to the importance of having their statistical reports full and complete.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. PETERS,	} Committee.
HY. ST. J. RINKER,	
I. S. WEISZ,	
A. R. SCHNEBLEY,	
E. BRANDENBERG.	

For the action on item 1, see Article XIII., Education; on items 2 and 3, see Article XV., Finance; on item 4, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; on items 5, 6, 7, 9, 10 and 14, see Article XIX., Church Government; on item 8, see Article X., Minutes of Classes; on 11, see Article XX., Publication; and on items 12 and 13, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Committee on Overtures submitted their report, which was received and disposed of item by item, and is as follows:

The Committee on Overtures beg leave to report:

1. A request from the Treasurer of the Church Extension Fund in reference to an apportionment made by the General Synod at Cincinnati, apportioning \$232.00 of the debt of said Board to the Synod of the Potomac.

2. A request from the brethren on the Pacific Coast to constitute them a Classis.

3. A communication from the Corresponding Secretary of the Pittsburgh Synod, reporting the action of said Synod to this body, with reference to the formation of a German Synod in the East.

4. A communication from the Secretary of the Board of Home Missions, with reference to the attendance of members of said Board, and also to obligations pertaining to Beneficiaries.

5. Report from the Secretary of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

6. Report from the Board of the Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf.

7. A communication from the Herald Printing Company, of Carlisle, Pa., asking the privilege of making an estimate for the printing for this Synod.

8. A paper from several members of the Consistory of the Frederick City congregation, reciting facts touching the interests of that congregation.

9. A paper from eighteen members of the Frederick congregation, who had signed a petition to the Consistory, requesting said Consistory to nominate Rev. T. J. Bacher, who now ask that their names be erased from said petition.

10. Report of the Board of Publication at Philadelphia.

11. Report from the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., accompanied with the Report of the Treasurer.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. SANTEE,	} <i>Committee.</i>
O. L. ASHENFELTER,	
H. TALLHELM,	
WM. H. LAKIN,	
JOSEPH WELSHANS,	

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article XV., Finance ; on items 2 and 3, see Article XIX., Church Government ; on item 4, see Article XIV., Missions ; on item 5, see Article XIII., Education ; on items 6, 10 and 11, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous ; on item 7, see Article XX., Publication ; and on items 8 and 9, see Article XVI., Appeals and References.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes submitted their report, which was received, disposed of item by item, and is as follows :

The Committee on Minutes of Classes respectfully submit their report, as follows, viz :

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. The Classis of North Carolina took action on a supplementary verbal report of the Committee on Overtures.
2. The Stated Clerk of the same Classis failed to give the full names of persons.
3. The same Classis failed to adopt its Minutes.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. The Mercersburg Classis transferred the Newburgh charge in Cumberland county, Pa., to Zion's Classis, subject to its acceptance by Zion's Classis and confirmation by the Synod. Zion's Classis has accepted the transfer.
2. The German Maryland Classis asks Synod to dismiss it in order that it may unite with other German Classes in the formation of a German Synod.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

1. An appeal of Elder A. T. Rice from the decision of the Maryland Classis, in which the Classis refused to sustain the appeal of A. T. Rice against the action of the majority of the consistory of the Evangelical Reformed church of Frederick, Md., in that they refused

to nominate Rev. T. J. Bacher for the pastorate of the church when requested to do so by a petition of a majority of the qualified voters of the congregation.

2. A complaint of Rev. F. A. Rupley and others against the action of Maryland Classis in confirming a call to Rev. E. R. Eschbach from the Evangelical Reformed church of Frederick, Md.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

All the subjects referred by the Synod to the several Classes were adopted by all the Classes, except by North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland Classes which failed to insert the additional column in their statistical tables for the number of students preparing for the Holy Ministry.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED AND DISMISSED.

1. Zion's Classis received the licentiate Reuben Rauhauser from the Philadelphia Classis, and ordained him; received the licentiate Aaron H. Leiss from the Lebanon Classis, and ordained him; received Rev. Israel S. Weisz from the East Pennsylvania Classis, Rev. Dr. Moses Kieffer from the Mercersburg Classis, Rev. Andrew J. Heller from the West Susquehanna Classis, Rev. Oliver L. Ashenfelter from the Philadelphia Classis, Rev. George W. Glassner from the Lancaster Classis, Rev. Julius H. Krueger from the Indiana Classis, Rev. J. Muellhaupt from the Sheboygan Classis, and the licentiate W. H. Herbert, from the Tiffin Classis; licensed David P. Lefever and dismissed him to the Iowa Classis; and dismissed Rev. John S. Foulk to the Presbytery of Carlisle.

2. Maryland Classis received Rev. Julius G. Erhardt from the German United Evangelical Protestant Synod, Rev. P. Allison Long from the Tuscarawas Classis, Rev. Orange E. Lake from the same Classis, the licentiate M. Treiber from the German Philadelphia Classis, and ordained him, and Rev. Charles Cast, from the Somerset Classis; dismissed Rev. Marcus Bachman and the fifth (St. Paul's) Reformed Church, and Rev. J. Conrad Hauser and the sixth (Emanuel's) Reformed Church, Rev. Gotthold L. Neef and the seventh (Zion's) Reformed Church, and Rev. J. Pister, to form a new Classis (German).

3. Mercersburg Classis received the licentiates William C. Schaefer and Solomon B. Schafer from the Lancaster Classis and ordained them, Rev. Stephen K. Kremer from the Virginia Classis, and Rev. Henry Hanhart from the Miami Classis; dismissed Rev. Dr. Moses Kieffer to the Zion's Classis, and Rev. Lucian Cort to the Westmoreland Classis.

4. Virginia Classis received Rev. William C. B. Shulenberger from the Mercersburg Classis, Rev. Charles G. Fisher, from the Philadelphia Classis, Rev. Henry Tallhelm from the United Brethren Church, and the licentiate Andrew J. Bowers, from the Philadelphia Classis; and dismissed Rev. Stephen K. Kremer to the Mercersburg Classis.

5. North Carolina Classis received the licentiate J. A. Foil from the Philadelphia Classis and ordained him, and licensed and ordained J. H. Shuford.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

1. Zion's Classis will meet in Dover, York Co., Pa., on the first Friday in June, 1875, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. John Ault, *President*, and Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*.

2. Maryland Classis will meet in Hagerstown, Washington Co., Md., on Thursday before Ascension Day, (April 29th), 1875, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. Daniel Gans, D. D., *President*, and Rev. Simon S. Miller, *Stated Clerk*.

3. Mercersburg Classis will meet in St Paul's church, Waynesboro, Franklin Co., Pa., on Wednesday, April 21st, A. D. 1875, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. John A. Peters, *President*, and Wm. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk*.

4. Virginia Classis will meet in Shepherdstown, West Virginia, on Thursday before the third Sunday in April (15th,) 1875, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. S. N. Callender, D. D., *President*, and the Rev. H. St. J. Rinker, *Stated Clerk*.

5. North Carolina Classis will meet in the Pleasant Retreat church, Davidson Co., N. C., on Thursday before the second Sunday in May, (6th,) 1875, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Rev. J. C. Clapp, *President*, and Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*.

6. German Maryland Classis will meet in Zion's church, Aisquith street, Baltimore, Md., on the first Monday in May (3d) 1875, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. Marcus Bachman, *President*, and Rev. J. Conrad Hauser, *Stated Clerk*.

7. San Francisco Classis will meet in the Reformed church of Stockton, California, on the first Friday after Pentecost, May 21st, A. D. 1875, at 7½ P. M. Rev. Frederick Fox, *President*, and Rev. Julius H. Krueger, *Stated Clerk*.

Respectfully submitted.

A. R. KREMER,	} Committee.
J. T. ROSSITER,	
G. H. MARTIN,	
J. MOTTER,	
L. MARKELL.	

Items 1 and 3 under *Irregularities* were adopted. Item 2 was adopted, and the attention of the Classis is specially directed to this matter.

In regard to Item 1, under *Requests and Recommendations*, it was *Resolved*, That this action of Mercersburg and Zion's Classes be confirmed, and the Newburgh charge made a constituent part of Zion's Classis.

For the action on Item 2 under the same head, see Article XIX., Church Government.

For the action on Items 1 and 2, under the head of *Appeals and Complaints*, see Articles XVI. and XVII., Appeals and References, and Complaints.

In respect to the failure of the North Carolina, Virginia and Maryland Classes to add an additional column in their statistical tables for the number of students preparing for the Holy Ministry, it was

Resolved, anew, That these Classes be directed to open an additional column in their statistical tables for the number of students preparing for the Holy Ministry, as requested by the General Synod of Cincinnati.

All the remaining items in the Report were adopted.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND ORDINATION.

The Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination offered the following report, which was received and adopted, viz :

Your Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination report, that no business has come before them demanding action.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports submitted their Report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

Dear Fathers and Brethren :—It is with a grateful acknowledgment of the goodness and mercy of God that we present this report :

In all parts of the Church work, as reported by the various Classes, do we see evidences of His gracious protection and aid. Almost uninterruptedly has the work of the Church gone forward in the different pastoral charges, and the labors of the ministry have been largely blessed.

It is true that statistics are not a *certain* gauge of the prosperity of the Church. There may be a larger measure of piety and faith when, owing to other circumstances, the accessions to the Church may not be so large, while these may be greatly increased by purely human effort. And yet it is gratifying to know that a large number have been received into full communion with the Church by the solemn rite of Confirmation; and this the more especially when it has been the result of regular and continued pastoral labor, rather than of spasmodic zeal.

The preaching of the word, administration of the Sacraments catechization of the young, and pastoral visiting upon the part of the ministry, have brought forth, as their fruits, an increased attendance upon these means of grace on the part of the people. It is true, that there is felt to be necessity for improvement here on both sides, and one report complains that there is "palpable indifference to the services of the sanctuary." While we take encouragement from the evidences of general prosperity, let the knowledge of the latter fact awaken us to renewed activity and zeal.

As to the *inner life* of the people, this can only be known to God Himself; the great Searcher of hearts. But so far as this is shown in outward action, we are able to form some judgment. "By their *fruits* shall ye know them." While we have much reason to believe that steady progress has been made in the graces of the Christian religion, yet it is a matter of regret that in some instances gross violations of morals have marred the purity of the Christian life. One report complains of the "absence of brotherly love," and another that "many members are not making progress in the Christian life, while all feel more or less the presence of sin, not only as warring against the soul, but as, to a certain extent, gaining the mastery." This is a matter for great sorrow, and it is against it that the efforts of the ministry and eldership should be directed. Not only must the Church grow from without, but from *within*—not only as the mustard seed developing to the full-grown tree, affording shelter and protection to those drawn from the world of sin, but as the leaven permeating and changing the character of the whole lump. May the blessing of God rest upon our labors in this sense especially, that brotherly love may continue, and the evil passions of our souls be crucified.

It is encouraging to know that a growing interest is generally manifested in the Sunday-school and its important work. It behooves our Church especially to make proper account of this auxiliary, and throw around it her protecting arm, that it may prove to be an efficient aid in ministering to the religious wants of the children.

We say our Church especially, for the reason that it has ever been one of its most glorious features that it makes provision for the *lambs* of the flock, and regards them as members of God's holy family, through the sacrament of baptism. Our forefathers with their parochial schools, showed that they had no sympathy with the idea that children are to grow up, outside of covenant relations with God until old enough to make an intelligent choice for themselves, but rather that they would throw around them all the helps of grace, that they might *grow* in the family life of Heaven even as they do in the family life of earth. This work the Sunday-school is endeavoring to do, but it requires all the aid that the combined wisdom and encouragement of this Synod can give it, that its work may be successfully done.

It is gratifying to know that in the past year evident progress has been made in the educational interests of the Church. The Faculty

of the College, which, though not under the immediate care of this Synod, is yet laboring for its true interests, have manifested commendable zeal and self-sacrifice in their arduous labors. They need our sympathy, our aid and our prayers, and should be made to feel that we are deeply interested in their work. A goodly number of students are under the care of the various Classes, preparing for the holy ministry, and we learn are making good progress in their studies. Oh, that their number might be increased! From all sides the cry comes up for more laborers in the Master's vineyard, while the vacant charges are suffering from the delay occasioned in securing the services of a pastor. Would to God that the hearts of our good people might be moved by this oft-repeated appeal, and they be led to consecrate their sons to this holy work.

The Theological Seminary, in whose prosperity our Synod is directly interested, is reported by the Board of Visitors to be in a flourishing condition. Her Professors are laboring with zeal and earnestness, and their work is being crowned with abundant success. The number of students, though not so large as desirable, is encouraging, and could be increased by the combined efforts of the ministry. May our blessed Lord keep under His fostering care this beloved institution, whose mission it is to send forth ambassadors at once Evangelical, Protestant and Reformed, that it may have a more enlarged sphere of usefulness than at present is the case.

Our mission field is important and promising, but alas, its proper cultivation is hindered by our sad deficiency in benevolent contributions. According to the statistical summary the amount contributed this year has fallen short of last year's contributions by upwards of \$1,300.00; the whole amount averaging less than fifty cents to each member.

Our people do not seem to have a proper conception of benevolence. They should be made to feel that it is a *privilege* to give of their substance to the Lord, and to regard it as an appropriate part of Christian worship. It is a stupendous thought, that God, to whom belong all the treasures of the earth, should permit us to aid Him in carrying forward the great work of salvation, by our earthly possessions. And yet such is the fact. The Church is *human* as well as divine in its constitution, and human means and efforts are blessed abundantly by God when consecrated in loving faith to His service.

What a glorious privilege, then, is ours, that we are permitted to aid in the progress of the Church with that which is *lowest* in the sphere of existence. Life, health, talent, time, comfort; all these are of higher value than money, but the last is accepted of God as well as the others, if given to Him in faith. Can we, as ministers and elders, fail to impress upon the minds of our people this blessed truth? Can we offer to them the cup of salvation half emptied of its precious contents, or shall we not rather give it to them full and overflowing with the rich promises made to the cheerful giver?

During the past year two ministers have been summoned by the angel

of death into the presence of their glorified Lord—the Rev. Dr. Benjamin S. Schneck and Rev. William H. Zimmerman. We miss them from our assemblies here on earth, but they have entered into the General Assembly of the first-born on high. Sufficient mention has already been publicly made of these departed ones, and it but remains for us to add the solemn injunction of our Lord, properly called to mind by their decease, “Watch, therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh.”

And now, “Unto Him that loved us, and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and hath made us kings and priests unto God and His Father; to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

Respectfully submitted.

ELLIS N. KREMER,	} Committee.
J. M. SOUDER,	
HENRY WISSLER,	
SAMUEL SIPE,	
JOSHUA ALBAUGH.	

(For Statistical Tables, see Appendix.)

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

REPORT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Education submitted their annual report, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

The Board of Education would respectfully report, that during the past year eleven Beneficiary Students have been committed to its care. These students have given the bond prescribed by the Synod, and are now pursuing their studies at Mercersburg or Lancaster. They are all supported by the Mercersburg Classis, and are as follows: John C. Bowman, David N. Dittmar, David M. Whitmore, Anderson J. Whitmore, William I. Stewart, Henry S. Garner, Samuel C. Long, Isaac N. Peightal, Samuel H. Eisenberg, Albert A. Black, and Daniel H. Leader. These six first named are graduates of either Franklin and Marshall College or Mercersburg College, and are now prosecuting their theological studies. The others are still undergraduates. David M. Whitmore, George F. Mull, Isaac M. Motter, John M. Schick, Wm. I. Stewart, Anderson J. Whitmore, Henry S. Garner, Bart. R. Carnahan and John North are pursuing their theological studies at Mercersburg, according to the provisions made by resolution of Synod last year. A committee of your Board attended their examinations, and hereby report them as satisfactory.

The amount paid for Beneficiary Education by the Mercersburg Classis from October 1st, 1873 to October 1st, 1874, was \$1441.64. Received as follows:

Oct. 2, 1873.	Cash from the St. Clairsville charge.....	\$ 20 00
" 6.	" Yellow Creek	23 06
" 13.	" Friend's Cove	9 55
" 22.	" Waterstreet	43 58
" 28.	" Chambersburg	50 00
" 29.	" Altoona	30 00
Dec. 12.	" Friend's Cove	14 40
" 17.	" Yellow Creek	20 00
"	" Bedford	35 00
1874.		
Jan. 3.	" McConnellsburg,	19 34
" 5.	" Friend's Cove	5 40
"	" Everett	25 00
" 6.	" Friend's Cove	20 00
" 8.	" St. Clairsville	35 00
" 28.	" Mont Alto	30 00
"	" Woodcock Valley	8 50
Feb. 3.	" Altoona	15 00
" 4.	" Waterstreet	25 50
March 7.	" Huntingdon	10 00
"	" Greencastle	41 00
" 31.	" Chambersburg	50 00
April 2.	" Mercersburg	30 00
" 10.	" College Church	50 00
"	" Loudon & St. Thomas	30 00
" 14.	"	25 00
" 18.	" Bedford	100 00
" 23.	" Waterstreet	19 55
"	" Altoona	49 00
" 25.	" Martinsburg	14 93
May 4.	" Friend's Cove	20 65
"	" Chambersburg	50 00
" 19.	" Woodcock Valley	12 00
May 28.	" Waterstreet	11 37
June 1.	" Bedford	15 00
" 4.	" Woodcock Valley	25 75
"	" Everett	44 70
"	" St. Clairsville	24 00
" 5.	" Mercersburg	51 00
"	" Greencastle	34 00
"	" Schellsburg	60 00
"	" Altoona	6 00
"	" Martinsburg	46 26
" 6.	" Mercersburg	40 00
"	" McConnellsburg	20 66
" 13.	" Grindstonehill	23 00
" 30.	" Everett	10 30
July 12.	" Yellow Creek	25 00
" 28.	" Altoona	21 00
Aug. 6.	" Greenfield	15 00
" 16.	" Yellow Creek	12 00
" 20.	" Friend's Cove	5 20
Sep. 24.	" Altoona	10 00
" 27.	" Friend's Cove	10 00
Total.....		\$1441 64

In addition to this amount the Treasurer of the Board received \$25.00 from Rev J. C. Hensell of Mount Crawford, Virginia Classis, and \$55.80 from the Hagerstown congregation, making an aggregate of \$1522.44. These amounts were properly disbursed, and vouchers taken.

The Board would respectfully add the following items which have come to the knowledge of the Board, in an official way, since the present sessions of Synod commenced.

Zion's Classis has had four beneficiary students under its care during the past year, viz.: David P. Lefever, Conrad H. Nagle, Geo. C. Hall, and George P. Hartzel. To these the Classis has paid \$690 00.

Virginia Classis has two beneficiary students under its fostering care, to wit, George A. Whitmore and Samuel L. Whitmore, to whom it paid during the past year \$300.00, the full amount of annual appropriation.

Maryland Classis has received under its care M. L. Firor as a beneficiary student, and recommended him to the care of the Board, with the request that such appropriation be made to him as may seem necessary, and resolved that this sum be paid out of moneys raised for the purpose by said Classis.

The whole amount paid for Beneficiary Education, as far as your Board has any knowledge of it, will be thus seen to be \$2512.44.

Your Board would earnestly recommend that all action of the Classes be at least reported, hereafter, to the Board in time to allow it to make a full and satisfactory report to the Synod.

During the past year, your Board issued a circular in the hope of raising additional funds, but the appeal did not meet with a hearty response, owing, as was alleged, to the fact, that the brethren had their hands full with the collections already made obligatory upon them.

One thing is certain. There must be an increased interest and increased contributions, if the educational work of the Synod is to go on. This work, it will be conceded, is of primary importance. Even the work of Missions, so dear to us all, depends upon it. There is no use to hope to extend our borders, when the men entering the field are insufficient in number to supply the home demand. Truly, the harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few.

The Secretary of the Board has expended \$2.10 for a Minute Book for the Board. It is recommended, that the Treasurer of Synod be instructed to refund this amount.

Respectfully submitted.

P. S. DAVIS, *President.*

The following Report from the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary, at Lancaster, Pa., through its Secretary, was made to Synod. This report was read, received, and adopted, and is as follows:

b.) Report of the Board of Visitors.

TO THE REVEREND SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Brethren :—The Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary respectfully present the following as their annual report :

The Seminary was opened on the first Wednesday of September 1873 and its operations were carried forward successfully and without interruption during the year, for which our gratitude is due to the Head of the Church, who has promised to be with His disciples always unto the end of the world.

The following persons, thirteen in number, were admitted to the privileges of the Seminary as members of the *Junior Class* : Moses H. Diefenderfer, Jos. E. Freeman, Nevin H. Fisher, G. Dickie Gurley, Thomas A. Huber, J. W. Knappenberger, Alpha K. Kline, G. W. Roth, D. Besore Shuey, George M. Zacharias, John J. Crist, Geo. P. Hartzell, and Thos. N. Reber. Most of these are graduates of Franklin and Marshall College. The three last named were admitted to a "special course of study arranged by the Faculty, with the approval of the Board, for such persons as wish to prepare themselves for the ministry, but who have not the literary qualifications heretofore required for admission into the Seminary."

The *Senior Class*, consisting of H. D. Darbaker, John F. De Long, James W. G. Dengler, Josiah D. Detrick, John Dotterer, David P. Le Fevre, Jon. H. Pannebecker, William C. Shaeffer, and Solomon B. Schafer, nine in all, having completed the prescribed course of study, were, at their own request, dismissed and received the usual certificate of Dismission and Recommendation for Licensure. They have all received calls and are now engaged in the active duties of the ministry in various parts of the Church. The whole number of students in attendance during the year was thirty-four, which is larger than at any previous time.

As usual, some of the students were under the necessity of leaving the Seminary before the close of the year, on account of limited funds. Notwithstanding the efforts of the Board to prevent such irregularities, experience goes to show, that they will continue until more system and promptness are introduced into the Church, in raising money to support our beneficiary students. The examinations at the end of the year were listened to with much attention and were entirely satisfactory to the Board. They were thorough, and reflected credit upon both professors and students. The Seminary is in a healthful state, and the prospects for further prosperity in the future encouraging. From the reports of the different professors we learn, that the students as a body have been diligent and regular in their studies, and that their Christian conduct has been consistent with their position as candidates for the office of the sacred ministry.

It is, however, a matter of regret, that the number of students is not larger than it is. The yearly addition to the ministry is barely sufficient to compensate for the loss in its ranks, by death or disability. The arrangements in the Seminary are such as would accommodate

twice the number now in attendance, without any increase of labor or expense to the Church, and there is no sufficient reason why it should not be so. In no other way can we so effectually build up the kingdom of Christ, as by increasing the number of laborers within our bounds. It is something both possible and practicable, and its urgency and great importance ought to be brought home to the heart and conscience of the Church. The harvest is great, but the laborers are few; pray ye, therefore, the Lord of the harvest, that He may send forth laborers into His harvest.

But, while peace and prosperity reign within the walls of the Seminary, opposition from without continues, which would seriously impede its progress, were it not measurably defeated by the merciful care of our divine Lord and Master. This subject has engaged attention from time to time, and the Board avails itself of this opportunity to reassert its judgment, as contained in last year's report, that, in view of the slanderous charges against the teachings of the Seminary, it regards said teachings as Protestant, Evangelical, and Reformed. The Board is further of the opinion, that the attention of the three Synods represented in this Board should be directed to the fact, that certain persons in their connection continue to misrepresent the teachings of the Seminary and of a large portion of the ministry in the Church.

As will be announced by the proper committee, the Rev. Frederick Augustus Gast was duly installed as Professor of the Hebrew Language and of Old Testament Theology, at the close of the Seminary year.

The new Board was organized at the last meeting of Synod by the election of Rev. Dr. A. H. Kremer as President; Dr. S. R. Fisher as Treasurer; and the undersigned as Secretary.

As a Board of Education we report, that there have been fifteen beneficiaries under our care during the year. Of these, four have finished their studies and are now in the ministry. The amount contributed for their support was \$2037.16. Last year it was \$3748.05. Disbursed, \$1697.80. Balance \$339.36 in the Treasury.

The smallness of the number of beneficiaries under the care of the Board, and the limited amount of monies acknowledged as received, results from the fact, that the Classes, with a few exceptions, have of late years taken the management of their beneficiary education operations into their own hands, and fail to recognize or report any longer to the Parent Board.

For further information in regard to the finances of the Board, we refer the Synod to the Treasurer's report.

Respectfully submitted.

THEODORE APPEL, *Secretary.*

Rev. S. K. Kremer was elected a member of the Board of Education. The following individuals constitute the Board of Education for the present year, viz: Revs. P. S. Davis, I. G. Brown, J. S.

Kieffer, S. K. Kremer ; and Elders J. Heyser, D. C. Hammond, and F. M. McKeehan.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Board of Missions of the three Eastern District Synods submitted their annual report to Synod, together with the Reports of the General Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of said Board, which were received, severally read, and then referred to the Committee on Missions. These reports are as follows, viz.:

I.—REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN :—I herewith transmit to you the Reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States. Your Board, composed of the members elected by the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, the Synod of Pittsburgh, and the Synod of the Potomac, have had, during this first year of their operations in this united form, a large field demanding their attention, with small resources, and no little trouble to put things in running order. We hope to secure your approval for the year, that has just closed, and your hearty co-operation during the coming year—when we hope to make a still more favorable report.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *Pres. Board of Missions.*

REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

DEAR BRETHREN—It is now one year since your Board of Missions was established in its present new form, though organized and active, from no fault of its members, for only ten months. During this period three regular meetings of the Board itself, and many more of the Executive Council, have been held. At the very outstart we were confronted with a number of formidable difficulties. To overcome them, and further the work generally, we adopted the best possible methods we could think of. We cared for and directed the missions to the extent of our ability ; and we shall submit to your attention a number of suggestions, suitable action on which by your reverend bodies, will greatly aid the success of the cause of Missions among us.

Of the difficulties we mention the following :

1. The separatistic way, become customary, of acting with respect to this matter on the part of the Synods, Classes, even congregations

and individuals. Taking the territory covered by these Synods as a whole, we lacked system. Our strength was broken up into fragments, unable to accomplish ends demanding strong, united force. Whatever its justification in the past, this state of things had become a great evil, leading the Synods to establish the present Board with the view to a remedy, by awakening and organizing throughout our bounds united action. But its establishment and activity, of course, could not at once completely overcome existing arrangements and old habits. With our best efforts, this still remains, in a measure, a great hindrance. A few Classes, and a number of congregations and pastors continue to act as before, though the great majority have gradually, during the year, fallen in with the intent of the action of the Synods. We have the dawn of a better day, thus, for the blessed cause of Missions in the Reformed Church, but by no means the fullness of that for which we are to look.

2. Our arrangements for gathering missionary contributions have been for years past, and still are, very defective in many parts of the Church. There are congregations, and probably whole charges, in which missionary collections are not customary. And to a very limited extent were, until now, the energies of our Sunday-Schools enlisted in this good work.

3. To this comes the fact, much to be deplored, that we as a Church have never yet had the spirit of missions active among us as we should. We have a mission with respect to missions, and we have not yet hitherto fully apprehended it. Our opportunities are great and enlarging; but our practical efforts to meet them come short. There exists in this respect a lethargy which has impeded all Boards, and obstructs ours.

4. Another hindrance has been the feeling among some brethren in the Church, that our elements can neither be brought to concerted action, nor kept continuously, amid the unavoidable difficulties, in the prosecution of far-reaching methods and ends. It is true, the spirit of constant change of plan and division of effort has had a long day among us; but if the Synods and Classes give the Board their firm support by resolve and by deed, it is believed that there will soon be no longer cause for the feeling mentioned.

5. The activity of your Board began just as the full effect of the financial panic began to be felt all over the country; and it became necessarily a principal sufferer from the common disaster.

6. Some of the Synods made no provision last autumn for carrying forward their missions during the winter and early spring. In these cases there was an official transfer of missions to the Board, but no official provision to sustain them. It was haphazard whether we should get the needful means or not.

7. Several of the Classes, in different Synods, were largely in debt on old claims. The creation of the new Board was their common occasion for settling up with the past. Their contributions for the current year were thus diverted, in some cases entirely, in others largely, from our treasury.

8. We found many of our Missions heavily loaded with debt. This fact prevented the rapid decrease of appropriations in such cases, and so tended to straiten the Treasury to the disadvantage of other missions.

To overcome these difficulties, and to carry forward the work in hand, the Board set itself to do the following among other things:

1. It sought to bring the different Classes, and through them their pastors and people, into harmonious co-operation with itself. It strove to get all to work, and to get all to work in one common channel.

2. The Classes were frankly informed of the amount of money needed to carry forward the Missions which they and the Synods had transferred. An equitable division of this amount was suggested, for the raising of which they were urged to make provision among their charges. The measure was so just as to meet with almost unanimous favor; and its faithful and punctual execution, and it alone, will make possible the prompt payment of the missionaries.

3. We have sought to enlist the sympathy and support of the Sunday-schools; and we shall press our effort until it is everywhere adopted in some suitable form.

4. Only promising new missions will be taken under the care of the Board. None other need apply. And all missions, unless for especially good reasons, will be subjected to an annual diminution of twenty-five per cent. of their appropriation.

5. The Board set itself, whenever needed and it could do it, to re-organize the financial arrangements of the missions themselves, with the view of enabling them the sooner to become self-supporting. In a number of cases this has been done with good effect, and needs to be done in others. And, what is of no small account, the Board has set its face against all attempts on the part of the missions to involve themselves in large church-debts. Far better worship in a neat churchly chapel, than in never so fine a structure, oppressing the congregation with an unmanageable debt.

The following missions have been under the care of the Board; some during the whole year; others, during part of it. To avoid consuming too much space, leading facts only are given. In the following synopsis, the word "old," denotes the year just past, and the word "new," the year now begun.

SYNOD OF THE REFORMED CHURCH, U. S.

Catasauqua, Pa.—Rev. A. B. Koplin, pastor. English and German. Appropriation; old, \$700; new, not determined on.

Reading, Pa.—*Christ Church*, Rev. J. A. Fuendeling, pastor. German. App. \$800.

St. John's, Rev. J. G. Shoemaker, pastor. English and German. App. \$200.

- South Bethlehem, Pa.*—Rev. N. Z. Snyder, pastor. English and German. App. \$400.
- Doylestown, Pa.*—Rev. L. C. Sheip, pastor. English and German. Appropriation not determined on.
- Philadelphia.*—*St. Stephen's*, Rev. A. Romich, pastor. German. App. old, \$300; new, \$225.
- St. John's*, Rev. J. G. Noss, pastor. English. App., old, \$400; new not determined on.
- St. Paul's*, Rev. J. Roeck, pastor. German. App. \$200.
Now transferred to German-Philadelphia Classis.
- Camden, Del.*—Vacant. English. App. \$300.
- Harrisburg, Pa.*—*Second Church*, Rev. G. W. Snyder, pastor. English. App. \$300.
- Zwingli*, Rev. M. Noll, pastor. German. App. \$300.
- Columbia, Pa.*—Rev. C. Clever, pastor. English. App. \$200.
- Lykens, Pa.*—Rev. J. Kretzing, pastor. English and German. App. \$350.
- Hazleton, Pa.*—*Emanuel's*. Vacant. German. Appropriation not determined on.
- Overton, Pa.*—Rev. J. H. Schlappig, pastor. English and German. App. \$75.
- Liverpool, Pa.*—Rev. W. Donat, pastor. English and German. App. \$150.

PITTSBURGH SYNOD.

- Kittanning, Pa.*—Rev. D. S. Dieffenbacher, pastor. English. App., old, \$400; new, \$300.
- Meadville, Pa.*—Rev. D. D. Leberman, pastor. English and German. App. \$150.
- Cumberland, Md.*—Rev. F. R. Schwedes, pastor. German. App., old, \$500; new, \$400.
- Pittsburgh, Pa.*—*St. Paul's*, Rev. J. W. Ebbinghaus, pastor. German. App., old, \$400; new, \$300.
- St. James'*. Vacant. German. App., old, \$300; new, \$225.
- Trinity*, Rev. T. F. Stauffer, pastor. English. App., old, \$500; new, \$400.
- Zion's*, Rev. G. B. Russell, D.D., pastor. English. App., old, \$400; new, \$300.
- Triadelphia, W. Va.*—Supplied by Rev. Jno. C. Müller. German, App., old, \$200; new, not determined on.
- Scottdale, Pa.*—Rev. L. B. Leasure, pastor. English. App., old, \$300; new, \$200.
- Zion's Valley, Pa.*—Rev. H. W. Hoffmeier, pastor. English. App., old, \$150; now discontinued as a mission, and supplied by neighboring pastors.

POTOMAC SYNOD.

- Duncannon, Pa.*—Rev. H. Wissler, pastor. English and German, App. \$400.
Washington, D. C.—Rev. M. Treiber, pastor. German. App., old, \$400; new, not determined on.
Baltimore, Md.—*Emanuel's*, Rev. J. C. Hauser, pastor. German. App., old, \$300; new, not determined on.
Winchester, Va.—Rev. C. G. Fisher, pastor. English. App. \$350.
San Francisco, Cal.—Rev. J. H. Krüger, pastor. German. App. \$330.
Stockton, Cal.—Rev. J. Müllhaupt, pastor. German. App., old, \$110; new, \$80.
Napa, Cal.—Rev. F. Fox, pastor. English and German. App. \$440.
Portland, Oregon.—Rev. J. Gantenbein, pastor. German. App. \$600.

The following *new* missions, all very hopeful, have been taken under the care of the Board during the year.

- Buffalo, N. Y.*—*Salem*, Rev. C. Kuss, pastor. German. App. \$300.
Titusville, Pa.—Rev. I. E. Graeff, pastor. English and German. App. \$300. (Circumstances have made this a mission, and it is hoped but for a very short time.)
Pittsburgh, Pa.—*St. Luke's*, Rev. P. Schülke, pastor. German. App. \$200.
Washington, D. C.—Vacant. English. Appropriation not determined on.

The German Philadelphia Classis, active in this work, reports the following missions:

- Philadelphia.*—*Emanuel's*, Rev. C. Keller, pastor. App. \$150.
Glassboro', N. J.—Rev. Charles Becker, pastor. App. \$150.
Egg Harbor, N. J.—Rev. John Bachman, pastor. App. \$300.

As will thus be seen, this report includes *forty-one missions*. The report of the Treasurer shows a total income of *Eight thousand nine hundred and eighty dollars and thirty-five cents*, as follows:

For missions, directly under the care of the Board,	\$7,608 00
“ “ in Iowa, and paid to the Treasurer of	
Iowa Classis,	556 02
“ “ in German Philadelphia Classis,	816 33

Old missionary debts of Classes, hereinbefore referred to, probably shortened our income by from two to three thousand dollars. Several hundred dollars paid, came also too late for the Treasurer's report this year.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. We suggest the holding of missionary services or festivals, at least once a year, in all our congregations; and oftener, where possible.

2. A general introduction of missionary services and collections, at stated times, in our Sunday-schools.

3. The amount of funds needed by the Board for the coming *classical* year is estimated at *fourteen thousand dollars* (\$14,000). Of this sum, we submit the following division:

Synod, U. States.....	\$7,500 00
Pittsburgh Synod.....	3,200 00
Potomac "	3,300 00

4. The manner of sending money to the General Treasurer is at present, in many cases, cumbersome and slow. Punctual, quarterly remittances to him, and receipts from him to the several treasurers, would be simpler and preferable.

In conclusion, we submit anew the sacred cause of Missions to your fostering care and wise direction.

Respectfully submitted.

F. K. LEVAN,
Superintendent of Missions.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States:
Having been elected Treasurer of the Joint Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States, I beg leave, very respectfully, to submit the following report:

Received from January 1st to October 13th, 1874 (both inclusive), the sum of Eight thousand one hundred and sixty-four dollars (\$8,164).

Paid out upon orders of the Board during the same period, the sum of Eight thousand two hundred and ninety-five dollars and seventy-three cents (\$8,295 73).

The annexed Statement will exhibit, in detail, the sources of the Contributions of the different Synods and Classes.

WILLIAM H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer, in account with the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.*

Receipts from January 1st to October 13th, 1874.

SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

	<i>Charges.</i>	<i>S. Schools.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Classis of Philadelphia, from Charges,	\$778 72		
" S. Schools,		\$22 34	\$801 06
" of Goshenhoppen, " Charges,			592 68
" of E. Penna., " " 913 11			
" S. Schools,		132 00	1,045 11
" of Tohickon, " Charges,	495 50		
" S. Schools,		6 63	502 13
" of Lebanon, " Charges,			1,431 36
" of Lancaster, " " 687 89			
" S. Schools,		51 64	739 53
" of West Susq., " Charges,	273 11		
" S. Schools,		10 00	283 11
" of East Susq., " Charges,			216 25
" of New York, " " 50 00			
Totals, from Synod of the U. States,	\$3,148 33	\$222 61	\$5,661 23

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Classis of Zion,	From Charges.	\$623 48		
" of Maryland,	" S. Schools,		\$25 00	\$648 48
" of Mercersburg,	" Charges,	180 60	122 99	303 59
" of Virginia,	" S. Schools,	107 65	19 33	126 98
	" Charges,			107 50
Totals, from the Synod of the Potomac,		\$911 73	\$167 32	\$1,186 55

SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

From the Treasurer of Synod,				\$578 50
Classis of Allegheny,	From Charges			7 00
" of Clarion,	" "	\$484 67		
" of St. Paul,	" S. Schools,		\$12 15	496 82
	" Charges,			150 00
Totals, from the Synod of Pittsburgh,		\$484 67	\$12 15	\$1,232 32
Received from the late Treasurer, W. A. Wilt, Esq.,				\$83 90
Totals, from all sources,		\$7,761 92	\$402 08	\$8,164 00

RECAPITULATION BY SYNODS.

Synod of the United States,		\$5,661 23
" " S. Schools,	\$222 61	
" " Potomac,		1,186 55
" " S. Schools,	167 32	
" " Pittsburgh,		1,232 32
" " S. Schools,	12 15	
	402 08	
Amount received from late Treasurer.....		\$83 90
Total amount received.....		\$8,164 00
" " paid out.....		8,295 73
Balance due Treasurer.....		\$131 73

NOTE 1.—Of the total amount received (\$8,164 00), Five hundred and fifty-six Dollars and two Cents (\$556 02), was designated for Missions in Iowa, and paid to the Treasurer of the English Iowa Classis.

NOTE 2.—The Missionary Treasurer of the German Philadelphia Classis, W. D. Gross, Esq., reports amount received for Missions from January, 1873, to September, 1874..... \$816 33
Paid out by him..... 908 34

In conclusion, it is with regret, that I have to state, that the amount contributed for Home Missions has been insufficient to pay the salaries of the missionaries in full. The large sum of \$4,000 is still needed to pay the orders issued up to date.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

HARRISBURG, Oct. 13, 1874.

I hereby certify that I have audited the account of Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States, and find it to be correct, showing a balance due him of \$131.73.

W. H. H. SNYDER.

HARRISBURG, Oct. 13, 1874.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions, to whom the foregoing Reports had been referred, submitted their report, which was received, and taken up item by item, amended and adopted, and is as follows :

Your Committee on Missions would respectfully present the following as their report :

From the papers placed in the hands of your Committee, we learn, with pleasure, that the missionary work of the Church has been carried forward during the past year with commendable zeal, and with much success. We have cause, therefore, to feel thankful to the great Head of the Church for blessings vouchsafed to this department of the labor of His Church in the upbuilding of His kingdom in the world ; and the wisdom and energy hitherto characterizing the efforts of those who have the oversight of this important work, should inspire us with hope as to the future, if they are properly sustained by the Church at large. We have cause to regret, however, that the receipts during the past year have fallen far short of the demands upon the Board of Missions. From the Treasurer's Report we learn, that \$8,164 00 were received during the year, of which only \$1,353 87 were received from this Synod. The Treasurer also reports, that \$4,000 00 are needed to pay the missionaries for their labors of the past year, showing that special efforts should be put forth at once to meet this pressing want.

And, therefore, the Board of Missions has sent to this Synod the following recommendations, which your Committee deem proper and necessary to be referred to the several Classes of this Synod. These recommendations are as follows :

1. That missionary services, or festivals be held at least once in a year in all our congregations and oftener if possible.
2. That a general introduction of missionary services and collections at stated times be made in our Sunday Schools.
3. That the apportionment for this Synod of \$3,300 00 for the coming year as indicated by the Board of Missions, be accepted.
4. The manner of sending money to the general Treasurer is at present in many cases cumbersome and slow. It is, therefore, recommended that punctual quarterly remittances be made to him and receipts sent from him to the several Treasurers, as more simple and preferable.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CREMER, *Chairman.*

The Board of Missions for the present year, as far as this Synod is represented, consists of the following individuals, to wit: Revs. J. O. Miller, W. K. Zieber, E. R. Eschbach, W. R. H. Deatrick, and Elders W. A. Wilt, G. S. Griffith, and H. Wirt.

In regard to the request from the Board of Missions, as communicated to Synod by the Secretary of the Board, asking Synod to take special obligations from the beneficiary students requiring them to labor as missionaries for a limited period, Synod respectfully declined to take such action, and, on motion, laid the item on the table.

During the last session of the Synod, the President of the Board of Missions informed the Synod of the reception of a letter from the Rev. John Gantenbein, of Portland, Oregon, missionary sent there recently, in which he sends his greetings to Synod, and says: "*Please tell the Synod, that we are at work in Oregon, with good prospects of success.*"

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his Annual Report, which was received, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows:

LOUIS MARKELL, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac, Reformed Church.*

DR.

1873. October.	To balance, cash on hand.....	\$214 00
1874. Feb. 27,	To cash received from Zion's Classis, being amount assessed at organization.....	112 00
May 6,	To cash from North Carolina Classis.....	30 00
" 29,	" " Virginia "	35 00
October 3,	" " Mercersburg "	112 00
" 15,	" " Maryland "	112 00
" 22,	" " Zion's "	112 00
Making.....		\$727 00

CONTRA. CR.

1873. October 25.	By cash paid Stated Clerk for Minute Book.....	\$3 25
1874. January 24.	" " Reformed Church Publication Board for printing the Minutes.....	155 50
February 18.	By cash paid Stated Clerk for expenses, postage, etc.....	15 00
March 23.	By cash paid Rev. J. E. Foulk, expenses.....	8 00
July 17.	" " "	6 00
October 3.	" " Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Salary..	75 00
" 22.	By balance on hand.....	464 25
Making.....		\$727 00

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee of Finance submitted their report, which was received, amended, and adopted as follows:

Your Committee on Finance would respectfully report,

That but one document was referred to us, namely, the Report of the Treasurer of Synod, which we have examined and find correct, with a balance on hand of \$464.25.

Since the report of the Treasurer has been made, Synod has ordered the disbursement of \$234.10. This will leave only \$230 15 in the Treasury for future use.

We assume that \$400.00, together with the amount in the Treasury, will be sufficient to meet the necessary Synodical expenses during the coming year. We accordingly recommend the apportionment of that sum among the several Classes, as follows:

Zion's Classis.....	\$112 00
Mercersburg Classis.....	112 00
Maryland "	100 00
Virginia "	30 00
North Carolina "	30 00
German Maryland Classis.....	12 00
Making.....	<hr/> \$396 00

Respectfully submitted.

E. R. ESCHBACH,	} Committee.
D. GANS,	
W. D. LEFEVRE,	
J. P. REED,	
J. M. NICELY,	

The Committee of Conference, appointed at the Synod of Chambersburg, to confer with the Synod of the United States, with instructions to request that Synod to liquidate our share of indebtedness to the former Board of Education by our proper share of the interests derived from the old Beneficiary fund, and also to bring to the notice of said Synod the great necessity of the two Synods coming to a clear and fixed understanding of the relation which the two Synods sustain to these funds, which were held by the Church in common prior to the organization of the Synod of the Potomac, reported, that for certain reasons they had failed to discharge this duty.

The Committee, which consists of Rev. D. Y. Heisler, F. A. Rupley, and Elder G. S. Griffith, was continued, with instructions to attend to this matter, if possible, without further delay.

The Stated Clerk, who had been instructed to call the attention of the Classes to the action of the Synod of the United States in declin-

ing to exonerate the Classes of this Synod, as requested by the Synod, from the payment of five-ninths of their assessments for contingent purposes, made by the Synod of Martinsburg in 1872, reported, that by oversight he had failed to furnish written notice of this fact to the several Classes, but from a letter received from the Treasurer of that Synod, had learned that Zion's, Maryland, and Virginia Classes had paid their full assessments.

The Stated Clerk was accordingly instructed to notify Mercersburg and North Carolina Classes, which have not paid their quotas in full, of the refusal of said Synod to exonerate them from the payment of their full assessments.

A request, as reported by the Committee on Overtures, came before Synod from the Treasurer of the Church Extension Fund, George Gelbach, in reference to an apportionment made by the General Synod at Cincinnati, apportioning \$232.00 of said debt to the Synod of the Potomac.

In reference to this matter, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the Treasurer of Synod be instructed to pay said claim, amounting to \$232.00, out of the funds now in his hands.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes reported an appeal of Elder A. T. Rice from the decision of the Maryland Classis, in which the Classis refused to sustain the appeal of said Rice against the action of the majority of the consistory of the Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick, Md., in that they refused to nominate Rev. T. J. Bacher, for the pastorate of said Church, when requested to do so by a petition of a majority of the qualified voters of the congregation.

This item was referred to a special committee, composed of Rev. A. Wanner, M. Kieffer, C. G. Fisher, and Elders D. M. Whitmore and H. Wirt, to examine whether the appeal be in order, and, if found in order, to report the manner in which the case is to be taken up and tried.

This committee submitted their report, which was received, amended and adopted, as follows:

The special committee, to which the appeal case of Elder A. T. Rice was referred, report that they have examined the Minutes of Maryland Classis, and find that due notice was given to the Classis, that an appeal would be taken from its decision to this Synod, and having in possession a written statement from the President of said Classis, that the reasons for said appeal were duly placed in the hands of the same, according to the requisitions of the Constitution, and

that said appeal being found in order, your committee, therefore, recommend the following order to be observed in the disposition of this appeal, viz.:

1. That the trial be made the order of business at 10 o'clock of this morning's (Monday) session.
2. That all the papers bearing on the case be read.
3. That the appellant or his counsel be allowed 20 minutes to open the case.
4. That Maryland Classis or its attorney be allowed 25 minutes in its defence.
5. That the appellant be granted 15 minutes to reply.
6. That the Classis be granted the same time to conclude its defence.
7. After this, each member of Synod shall be permitted to speak once on the case, and not over 10 minutes.

Respectfully submitted.

<p>A. WANNER, M. KIEFFER, C. G. FISHER, HY. WIRT, D. M. WHITMORE,</p>	}	Committee.
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The appeal was taken up at the time designated.

The following papers in the case were read:—

1. The Minutes of Maryland Classis bearing on the subject.
2. The Petition of members, marked "B."
3. The Resolution offered by Elder A. T. Rice, marked "A."
4. The Appeal of Elder A. T. Rice, from the action of the Consistory of the Evangelical Reformed Church, Oct. 6, 1873.
5. The Appeal from the special meeting of Maryland Classis to the Synod of the Potomac.

Rev. F. A. Rupley, appeared as counsel for the appellant and Rev. J. S. Kieffer for the appellee, the Classis. Each spoke in the order and for the length of time specified. Afterwards a number of the members of the Synod also availed themselves of the privilege given, to speak on the subject. The Synod then proceeded to vote on the case by calling the Ayes and Nays, and the appeal was not sustained, there being 16 Ayes and 66 Nays, as follows:

Ayes.—*Ministers*, A. Wanner, A. Spangler, F. S. Lindaman, I. S. Weiss, G. W. Glessner, J. Sechler, A. G. Dole, H. H. Hibshman; *Elders*, S. Swartz, G. L. Ickes, S. R. Weaver, M. Raffensperger, A. Brilhart, E. Brandenburg, J. Zimmerman, and D. Dunn.

Nays.—*Ministers*, J. O. Miller, W. K. Zieber, J. D. Zehring, J. Ault, J. Crawford, H. Wissler, M. Kieffer, A. J. Heller, O. L. Ashenfelter, D. Gring, W. R. H. Deatrick, J. W. Santee, W. C. Cremer, D. Gans, W. M. Deatrick, I. G. Brown, N. H. Skyles, E. E. Higbee, P. S. Davis, D. Y. Heisler, W. D. Lefevre, J. A. Peters, A.

C. Geary, S. K. Kremer, S. B. Schafer, W. C. Schaeffer, H. St. J. Rinker, S. N. Callender, J. T. Rossiter, C. G. Fisher, H. Tallhelm, G. H. Martin, W. C. B. Shulenberger; and *Elders* W. A. Wilt, H. Wirt, M. Harnish, S. Sipe, J. G. Rose, M. Myers, H. M. Cocklin, J. Mackley, W. Lupfer, H. S. Hershey, H. Reynolds, W. H. Lakin, J. Albaugh, J. Sellers, G. S. Griffith, W. Earhart, J. P. Reed, J. Rawlings, A. R. Schnebley, B. Isenberg, J. Rebuck, J. McKinney, D. M. Whitmore, D. B. Russell, I. H. Keefer, A. B. Wingerd, W. H. Bargelt, J. W. Wenner, D. A. Plecker, J. Welshans, J. M. Nicely, E. Will, and H. J. Seibert.

Non liquet—Rev. R. R. Smith.

Excused from Voting—Rev. E. R. Eschbach.

Prevented from voting in consequence of having voted in the lower court, or special meeting of Classis—*Ministers*, F. A. Rupley, J. S. Kieffer, A. R. Kremer, J. M. Souder, H. Bielfeld, G. L. Staley, S. S. Miller, W. F. Colliflower, and *Elders*, J. Motter, L. Markell, and G. Harbaugh.

Rev. F. A. Rupley, in behalf of his client, Elder A. T. Rice, then gave immediate notice that he would complain to the next General Synod in this case.

The Synod thereupon appointed the President of Synod and Rev. J. S. Kieffer to defend the Synod before the next General Synod, should this Complaint be prosecuted before that judicatory.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes also reported a complaint of Rev. F. A. Rupley and others, against the action of Maryland Classis in confirming a call to Rev. E. R. Eschbach from the Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick, Md.

This complaint case was referred to the same committee to which the appeal case had been referred, with the same object in view.

The committee reported the complaint in order, and recommended that the same order be observed in this case as in the appeal case. The complaint case to be taken up immediately after the appeal case has been disposed of.

This case was accordingly taken up in the order recommended by the committee.

The papers in the case were then read, as follows:

1. The minutes of Maryland Classis bearing on the case.
2. The reasons assigned by the complainant.
3. The protest of Elders John W. Birely, A. T. Rice, and Isaac Cronise against the confirmation of the call to Rev. E. R. Eschbach, read at Manchester, Md., June 5th, 1874.

Rev. F. A. Rupley conducted the case for himself, and Rev. J. S. Kieffer acted as the counsel for Maryland Classis.

The Synod then voted on the case, and the complaint was not sustained.

Whereupon, Rev. F. A. Rupley gave notice, that he would complain in the name of Elders Birely, Rice, and Cronise to the next General Synod, from the decision of the Synod just rendered.

The Synod, thereupon, appointed the same committee, as in the other case, to defend its action before the next General Synod, should this case be carried before that tribunal.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board submitted its first annual report, which was received, amended, and adopted as follows:

Reverend Fathers and Brethren of the Synod of the Potomac:

The Sunday-school Board appointed at your last annual meeting begs leave to represent the following report:

The Board met twice during the sessions of the Synod at Chambersburg, and has held one meeting during the sessions of the present Synod. The specified work claiming our attention was considered, and the wants of our Sunday-schools earnestly discussed.

Previous to the last annual meetings of the several Classes composing this Synod, the Board addressed a letter to each Classis, requesting them to devote one evening during their sessions to the consideration of the interests of the Sunday-school cause, and in connection therewith suggested several important topics for discussion. The Classes of Maryland and of Zion complied with our request. The Classis of Mercersburg adopted a resolution setting apart one evening at their next annual meeting for the discussion of this subject. We are not advised in regard to the action of the Classes of North Carolina and Virginia. No reference to such meetings appears in their published minutes.

In compliance with the resolution adopted by Synod, we present the following programme for the Synodical Sunday-school meeting this (Friday) evening.

1. The claims of Sunday-schools upon the Church. Revs. M. Kieffer, H. H. W. Hibshman, and J. S. Kieffer.

3. The Advantages of a Uniform Series of Lessons in the Sunday-school. How can we secure them? Revs. J. Ault, E. E. Higbee, D. Gans, and J. W. Santee.

It is, of course, not the intention to limit the number of speakers to those, who have been selected to discuss these subjects. It is earnestly hoped, that all the Members of Synod will feel free to enter upon the discussion.

It affords us great pleasure to inform you, that the interest in this department of Church work is greatly on the increase in our Church. The Eastern Synod will also devote one session, at least, at its present meeting to the consideration of this subject, and several of the Classes are taking hold of it with great earnestness. The Synodical Sunday-school meeting inaugurated by this Synod will be the first ever held by any Synod in the Reformed Church.

The Board would be glad to ascertain the sentiment and wishes of Synod in regard to its Sunday-schools, and would appreciate any suggestions and consider any plans which might be proposed by the members of this body.

The Board would respectfully request Synod to set apart Friday evening, Oct. 22d, 1875, at its next annual meeting, for the purpose of holding a Synodical Sunday school meeting, and that a programme be prepared for the occasion.

We would also ask Synod to recommend to the several Classes in its bounds to devote one evening at their next annual meetings to the consideration of the interests of our Sunday-schools.

Respectfully submitted.

JAMES CRAWFORD,
J. W. SANTEE,
F. M. McKEEHAN.

Rev. J. A. Peters and Elder G. S. Griffith were elected members of the Sunday-school Board, the former for two and the latter for five years.

The Sunday-school Board is constituted as follows: Elder G. S. Griffith for five years, Rev. J. Crawford for four years, Rev. J. W. Santee for three years, Rev. J. A. Peters for two years, and Elder F. M. McKeehan for one year.

The Sunday-school meeting, according to programme, was held on Friday evening, and was one of much interest.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the subject of the preparation of a System of Lessons for Sunday-schools be committed into the hands of the Sunday-school Board.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The committee appointed at the Synod of Organization to act with similar committees from the other two Eastern District Synods to

determine the Synodical boundaries, reported progress. The committee was continued and instructed to send a copy of their report defining the boundary lines between the three Eastern District Synods, when ready to be made, to the Pittsburgh Synod, as well as to the Synods of the United States and the Potomac, that the Synod of Pittsburgh may adopt or reject the same, as it may deem proper, said Synod having no representatives in the committee as it is now constituted.

The committee appointed at the first annual meeting, to confer on the matter of union between the Reformed Church in America and the Reformed Church in the United States, in conjunction with similar committees from the other District Synods, reported progress, and was continued.

The committee appointed at the last annual meeting, to aid in drafting a new Constitution, reported as follows, which was received and adopted, and the committee was continued, viz.:

Your committee on Constitution respectfully report, that they have been busy in consultation and in gathering material for the important work of forming a new Constitution for the Church, but are not able to report anything definitely for want of time.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman.*

The following resolution was reiterated:

Resolved, That the Classes within the bounds of this Synod be directed to see to it, that the Charters of congregations harmonize with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States.

The Maryland Classis heeded the action of the Synod of the United States as directed by this Synod, in reference to certain interests in Church property in Washington, D. C., and appointed a Committee to whom the matter was referred.

The following resolution was adopted in regard to statistics:

Resolved, That the attention of the Classes of this Synod be called anew to the importance of having their statistical reports full and complete, and that the subject be brought to the notice of all our pastors and pastoral charges.

GERMAN MARYLAND CLASSIS.

On motion, the organization of the German Maryland Classis, as ascertained from the Minutes of the Maryland Classis and from their own Minutes, was recognized.

SAN FRANCISCO CLASSIS.

The following resolution on the formation of the San Francisco Classis was adopted, in response to the action of the ministers laboring on the Pacific coast, forming themselves into the San Francisco Classis:

Resolved, That the action of the brethren on the Pacific Coast organizing themselves into the San Francisco Classis, although somewhat irregular, be and hereby is sanctioned and confirmed; and that the names of those brethren be hereafter omitted from the Minutes of the Classis of Zion.

A request from the German Maryland Classis to be dismissed with the view of being formed into a German Synod, together with the German Philadelphia, the New York, and the West New York Classes, was laid before Synod.

The Overture from the Pittsburgh Synod, in the form of a preamble and resolution, with reference to the same subject, and which had been laid upon the table, was taken up.

After due consideration the request was granted, and the German Maryland Classis was accordingly dismissed, in order to form a German Synod, with the aforementioned German Classes.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk, in regard to the publication of the Minutes of Organization and First Annual Meeting, and adopted.

The undersigned, as Stated Clerk of Synod, would respectfully report:

That agreeably to the instructions of Synod, he had one thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of Synod printed by the Reformed Church Publication Board;—the Minutes of the Synod of Organization in their running order, and those of the First Annual Meeting in LEMMATA form.

The Minutes as thus printed form a neat pamphlet of 58 pages, and present a fine appearance. Thorough accuracy in the publication was aimed at, and secured, it is believed, to an unusual degree. They contain fewer typographical errors than is ordinarily the case. And in this respect, they will bear favorable comparison with the Minutes of other Synods. One or more unimportant typographical mistakes occur in the statistical tables, the proof-reading of the sheets of which did not pass under my supervision.

As Synod had not adopted any LEMMATA form of its own, it became necessary to form one before the publication of the Minutes of

the Annual Meeting could go forward; that of the mother Synod not answering in all particulars. Accordingly, the LEMMATA, found on page 16 of the printed Minutes, was formed, being suited, it is believed, to the condition and circumstances of the Synod. If this should not prove satisfactory, it can easily be changed by the Synod.

The publication of the Minutes having progressed thus far, another difficulty arose, and in this instance in regard to their proper distribution. Synod having adopted no rule or principle, what course was to be adopted? The principle of distributing the Minutes among the Classes, according to the ratio of assessment made for contingent purposes, having proven satisfactory with the old Synod, this course was accordingly pursued. But the Stated Clerk was still at a loss to know what plan to adopt or follow in regard to furnishing ministers belonging to other Synods with a copy of our Minutes. To send a copy to all such, would require more than one-half the number printed, so that there would be less than five hundred copies left for the Classes constituting the Synod.

The following plan was finally adopted in the distribution of the Minutes:

Zion's Classis received.....	224	copies
Maryland Classis received.....	224	"
Mercersburg Classis received.....	224	"
Virginia " "	70	"
North Carolina " "	60	"
		<hr/>
Making.....	802	"

Thus 198 copies were left for general distribution, which were mailed to such ministers of the Church as would be most likely to appreciate the favor.

In conclusion, Synod is most respectfully asked to adopt some rule in this particular, and thus relieve the Stated Clerk from further perplexity in this feature of distributing the Minutes.

The expense of printing the Minutes was only \$155.50, which has been paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

The report was referred for consideration to a special committee, consisting of Rev. J. O. Miller, D. Gans, and Elder W. H. Lakin. During the last session of Synod, this committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

The committee, to whom was referred the report of the Stated Clerk, offer the following report, concerning the publishing and distributing of the Minutes of Synod.

Resolved, That this Synod approve of the course pursued by the Stated Clerk in forming the LEMMATA as given, and accordingly publishing the Minutes of Synod.

Resolved, further, That we approve of the distribution of the Minutes according to the ratio of assessment for contingent purposes, as is the case with the Synod of the United States, and the surplus copies be sent as far as possible to the members of other Synods.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER,	} Committee.
D. GANS,	
W. H. LAKIN,	

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to have twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of the present sessions duly authenticated, published, and distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

The Committee on Overtures reported a communication from the Herald Printing Company of Carlisle, Pa., addressed to the Stated Clerk of Synod, asking the privilege of making an estimate of the cost of the printing of Synod's Minutes.

On motion, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to notify the Herald Printing Company of Carlisle, that the public printing of the Synod of the Potomac is placed in the hands of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church at Philadelphia.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod submitted their report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Board of Trustees elected by the last Synod met on the 22d of October, 1874, and organized by electing Lewis H. Steiner, M.D., as President, and Rev. J. O. Miller as Vice President and Secretary.

They also cast lots for the several terms of time, each was to serve as members of said Board, which resulted as follows, viz.:

Rev. J. O. Miller's term expires	Jan. 1st,	1875.
Lewis H. Steiner's	"	1876.
William Heyser's	"	1877.
Rev. Saml. N. Callender's	"	1878.
Louis Markell's	"	1879.

We request the Synod to elect one member whose term of office will begin on January 1st, A. D. 1875.

We herewith transmit to you for your acceptance or rejection, a copy of the act of incorporation which was approved by the last Synod in its general character, and which has been given us by the General Assembly of Maryland.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *Secretary.*

The Board laid before Synod the following "Act of Incorporation," to wit:

"An act to incorporate the Trustees of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

WHEREAS, The Ministers and Elders forming the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, consisting of citizens of the State of Maryland, and of others of the United States of America, have represented that by donations, devises and bequests, or otherwise, of charitably disposed persons, they expect to be possessed of lands and moneys for benevolent and pious purposes, but from the scattered situation of said Ministers and Elders, and other causes, the said Ministers and Elders will find it very difficult to manage the said lands and moneys in the way best calculated to answer the intentions of the donors; therefore—

SECTION 1. *Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Maryland,* That Lewis H. Steiner, Louis Markell, William Heyser, Jacob O. Miller and Samuel N. Callender, and their successors, duly elected and appointed in manner as is hereinafter directed, be and they are hereby made, declared and constituted a corporation and body politic and corporate, to have continuance until otherwise ordered by the General Assembly, by the name style and title of "The Trustees of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States," and by the name, style and title aforesaid, shall hereafter be persons able and capable in law, as well to take, receive and hold such estate, property and effects as may be acquired by gift, purchase, devise or bequest by said Ministers and Elders of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, or any other person or persons, to their use or in trust for them, according to the original use and intent for which such gifts, purchases, devises or bequests shall be respectively made, subject, however, in the case of devises and bequests, always to the sanction of the General Assembly of Maryland, as provided in the Declaration of Rights.

SECTION 2. *And be it enacted,* That no misnomer of the said Corporation, and their successors, shall defeat or annul any gift, grant, devise or bequest, to or from the said Corporation; *provided,* the intent of the party or parties shall sufficiently appear upon the face of the gift, will, grant or other writing, whereby any estate or interest was intended to pass to or from the said corporation.

SECTION 3. *And it be enacted,* That the said Corporation and their successors shall have full power and authority to make, have and use one common seal, with such device and inscription as they

shall see fit and proper, and the same to break, alter and renew at their pleasure.

SECTION 4. *And be it enacted*, That the said Corporation and their successors, by the name, style and title aforesaid, shall be able and capable in law to sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded in any Court, or before any Judge or Justice, in all and all manner of suits, complaints, pleas, matters and demands, of whatsoever nature, kind and form they may be, and all and every matter and thing to do, in as full and effectual a manner as any other person or persons, bodies politic and corporate, within this State, can or may do.

SECTION 5. *And be it enacted*, That the said Corporation and their successors shall be and are hereby authorized and empowered to make, ordain and establish by-laws and ordinances, and do everything incident and needful for the support and due government of the said corporation, and managing the funds and revenues thereof; *provided*, the said by-laws and regulations be not repugnant to the Constitution and Laws of the United States, to the Constitution and Laws of this State, to this Act, or to the Constitution, Laws or Regulations of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

SECTION 6. *And be it enacted*, That the said Corporation shall consist of five persons, neither more nor less, who shall be members of the Reformed Church in the United States, and continue to be members of the said corporation for the term of five years each, the term of office to end always on the first day of January, and the said Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, shall annually change one-fifth of the said board or corporation, in such manner as to the said Synod shall seem proper; but the same person may not be re-elected until after he shall have ceased to be a member of the said board or corporation for at least one year; *provided*, however, that the aforesaid Trustees, namely, Lewis H. Steiner, Louis Markell, William Heyser, Jacob O. Miller and Samuel N. Callender, who shall continue in office as follows: one of them until the first day of January, in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-five; one until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-six; one until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-seven; one until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-eight; and one until the first day of January, one thousand eight hundred and seventy-nine; these different terms of office to be distributed by lot or otherwise by the said corporation among themselves at their first meeting; *and further*, if the place of any member of the said corporation be made vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the remaining members of the said corporation, at the first meeting held at which such vacancy shall become known, to elect and appoint a person who is a member of the Reformed Church in the United States, to the office of trustee or member of said corporation, who shall, however, hold office only for the unexpired term of the member creating such vacancy, and the person thus elected by

the said corporation, shall not be re-eligible by the Synod aforesaid, until after he has ceased to be a trustee for the period of at least one year; *and further*, if the Synod aforesaid fail during any year to change one-fifth of the members of this board or corporation, then the vacancy occurring on the first day of January, according to the provisions and restrictions of this Act, shall be filled by the said corporation, and the person thus elected and appointed, shall be a member of the said corporation for the term of five years.

SECTION 7. *And be it enacted*, That the Corporation aforesaid shall have power and authority to manage and dispose of all moneys, goods, chattels, lands, tenements and hereditaments, and other estate whatsoever committed to their care and trust by the said Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, but in cases where special instructions for the management and disposal thereof, shall be given by the said Synod in writing, under the hand of their Clerk, it shall be the duty of the said Corporation to act according to such instructions; *provided*, the said instructions shall not be repugnant to the Constitution and Laws of the United States, or the Constitution and Laws of this State, or to the provisions and restrictions in this Act contained.

SECTION 8. *And be it further enacted*, That the said Corporation shall and may have a President, a Vice-President, who shall also be the Secretary or Clerk, and a Treasurer: the President and Vice-President to be chosen by the said Corporation, out of their own number, as often as they may see proper, and according to the rules by them to be prescribed, but the Treasurer to be elected annually by the said Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, from among the members of the said Corporation, in such manner as to the said Synod shall seem proper, and the same person shall be re-eligible to the office of Treasurer by the said Synod from year to year, so long as he continues to be a member of the said Corporation, and the said Corporation shall have authority to appoint such other officers and servants as shall by them the said Corporation, be deemed necessary, to all of which officers, the said Corporation may assign such a compensation for their services and such duties to be performed by them, to continue in office for such time and to be succeeded by others in such way, the Treasurer being excepted conformably to the provisions of this Act, as the said Corporation may direct.

SECTION 9. *And be it enacted*, That three members of this board or Corporation, whereof the President, or in his absence, the Vice-President shall be one, shall be a sufficient number to transact the business thereof, and to make by-laws, rules and regulations; *provided*, that previous to any meeting of the board or Corporation for such purposes not appointed by adjournment, ten days notice shall be previously given thereof, by a circular sent by mail or otherwise to each member of the Corporation.

SECTION 10. *And be it enacted*, That said Corporation shall keep

regular and fair entries of their proceedings, and a just account of their receipts and disbursements, in a book or books to be provided for that purpose, and their Treasurer shall once in every year exhibit to the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, an exact state of the accounts of the Corporation.

SECTION 11. *And be it enacted*, That the said Corporation may take, receive, purchase, possess and enjoy messuages, houses, lands, tenements, rents, annuities, and other hereditaments, real and personal estate of any amount not exceeding ten thousand dollars yearly value, but the said limitations are not to be considered as including the annual collections and voluntary contributions made in the churches under the care of the said Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Approved April 6, 1874."

On motion, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Act of the General Assembly of the State of Maryland, entitled, "An Act to incorporate the Trustees of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, approved April 6, 1874," be now approved by the Synod, and that the same is hereby accepted on the part of this Synod.

Rev. E. R. Eschbach was elected a member of the Board of Trustees, in the place of Rev. J. O. Miller, to serve from January 1st, 1875, to January 1st, 1880.

Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows.

The following resolution was adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church be anew commended to the confidence and support of our churches, and that it be recommended to all our congregations to lift one collection in the month of June next, so far as practicable, in aid of said Society; and further, that the attention of the several Classes be directed to this subject.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon the members of Synod for the benefit of the sexton. The Rev. P. S. Davis, and A. J. Heller were appointed to collect said assessment. The committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

The committee to collect the assessment for the sexton report that the duty has been attended to, and that \$25.70 has been secured and handed over to the sexton.

Respectfully submitted.

P. S. DAVIS, *Chairman*.

On the morning of the third day of the sessions, the Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received and adopted. The election for members of the Boards was held immediately after adopting the report. Rev. H. Wissler and S. K. Kremer were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result. The result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of the several Boards.

The Committee on Overtures reported a communication from the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., in which they lay before the Synod a statement of the receipts and disbursements of that institution, as well as of its general management and present condition. The paper was read and approved by the Synod.

An item in the Report of the Committee of Overtures was the Report of the Board of Publication at Philadelphia. The report was read, and then referred to a special committee, consisting of Rev. Drs. Higbee, Zieber, Staley, and Elders I. H. Keefer, and J. Lantz.

The committee reported on Saturday afternoon as follows, which was received and adopted item by item:

The Publication Board of the Synod of the United States has in charge an interest which is so intimately connected with the whole life and progress of our Church, and of such vital importance, that any calamity befalling it, or any serious crippling of its energies, cannot but be disastrous in consequences not only to *one* Synod but to the *entire* Church.

Through it we have our "Review," our "Messenger," our Sunday-schools paper, our "Guardian," and in fact the great bulk of our denominational literature. Through it the general theological thought of our eastern Church comes practically before the Church. This interest, therefore, justly demands every exertion and sacrifice, which we, as Ministers and Elders of the Reformed Church, can possibly make. We cannot allow it to suffer—we cannot neglect its work, or feel no responsibility in its management and success.

Your committee, therefore, while heartily acquiescing in the efforts made by the Board to render its work more efficient, and make its claims more extensively felt by the Church at large, propose the following resolutions for the consideration and action of this Synod.

Resolved, I. That the Synod feels that the Board of Publication of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, although not officially connected with it, is yet most intimately related to, and absolutely necessary for our own Synodical mission and work.

II. That the Synod endorses the general feature of changes proposed by the Board, including the alternation of the "Messenger," by reduction of size, and change of form, and decrease of subscrip-

tion price, and establishment of a cash-in-advance principle of payment.

III. That in view of those changes, and the general depression of business, this Synod urges upon each minister within its bounds, to make organized exertion to increase the subscription list of the "Messenger," either by acting as direct agent in his charge for this end, or by urging some one to act in the same capacity.

IV. That the Ministers and Elders of this Synod be, and hereby are most earnestly urged to secure contributions from those who are able and willing to help a cause so vital to the welfare of the Church; which contributions shall go to form the capital required for the efficient operation of the Board.

V. That while thus earnest to help the Board in its important work, this Synod respectfully makes the following suggestions in reference to its general management, to wit:

1. That every effort be made to reduce the expenditures of the establishment, (which are felt to be large in proportion to the business annually transacted), either by decreasing salaries, or by lessening the number of employees.

2. That those publications which prove themselves unable to meet the expenses of their publication, and are not strictly necessary for the work of the Church, either be discontinued, or thrown into private hands—thus releasing the Board from all pecuniary responsibility therefor.

3. That the Board make every effort to overcome all dissatisfaction that may be felt and expressed in reference to its business capacity to supply orders from the Church for religious literature, and books in general, by securing the best business talent of the Church for this purpose.

4. That the Synod does not, in any of the suggestions made in reference to the general management of the Board, wish for a single moment, that any change should be made, which, in the wisdom of the Board, might prove at all perilous to its continuance and work.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman.*

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Hymn Book Committee of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, appointed by that Synod before the formation of the Synod of the Potomac, has finished its work and reported to the mother Synod; and, WHEREAS, The selection of Hymns made by that committee is now in print, and a copy is before this Synod; therefore,

Resolved, That a special committee of five be and hereby is appointed to take the selection of Hymns, and upon examination report to this Synod a suitable minute in reference thereto.

The committee called for consisted of Rev. J. A. Peters, E. R. Eschbach, E. E. Higbee, and Elders A. B. Wingerd, and L. Markell.

This committee, at a subsequent session of Synod, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

Your committee, into whose hands was placed the printed Hymns reported to the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully submit the following preamble and resolutions for adoption :

Whereas, The General Synod of the Reformed Church empowered the Synod of the United States to publish, in connection with its Order of Worship, a suitable appendix of Hymns; and, *Whereas*, when the Synod of the United States appointed a committee to form such a collection of Hymns, the Synod of the Potomac was not organized, but in reality constituted a part of the Synod to which the privilege was granted, and which appointed the committee; therefore,

Resolved, I. That this Synod regards itself as properly included within the original privilege, granted by the General Synod.

II. That the Synod most heartily adopts the collection of Hymns made by the committee, and recommends its introduction and use in our congregations, so far as possible and expedient.

III. That this Synod appoint the following persons, to wit: *Rev. E. E. Higbee, D.D., L. H. Steiner, and Rev. J. B. Kerchner*, as a committee, who in conjunction with a committee of the same number from the Synod of the United States, shall have power to prepare and publish an edition of the collection of Hymns with music.

IV. That such conjoint committee of six shall have power to appoint an additional member of the committee, making this committee to consist of seven.

V. That this Synod is willing to be responsible for its share of the expense of such new edition, with music; the ratio of its share being based upon the number of communicant members respectively of the two Synods.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. PETERS,	} Committee.
E. R. ESCHBACH,	
E. E. HIGBEE,	
A. B. WINGERD,	
L. MARKELL,	

The Corresponding Secretary was instructed to send a copy of the foregoing report to the Synod of the United States, now in session at Bethlehem, Pa.

An item in the Report of the Committee on Overtures was the Report of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, accompanied with the Treasurer's Report.

These papers were read, and, on motion, referred to the Board of Education.

A communication, in regard to the SEMI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION, or Fiftieth Anniversary of the Founding of the Theological Seminary, was received from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, through its Corresponding Secretary, on Monday evening, near the hour for final adjournment, and was read. Whereupon the following resolution was offered and adopted:

Resolved, That we heartily approve of the *Semi-Centennial Celebration* contemplated by the Synod of the United States, and that we will do all in our power to further it and give it success.

ARTICLE XXII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the most cordial thanks of this Synod are hereby tendered to the Pastor and members of the Reformed Church of Hanover, Pa., for the very liberal hospitality and kind entertainment extended to us, during our present annual sessions and sojourn among them.

Resolved, That Pastor Zieber be requested to read the foregoing resolution of thanks from his pulpit.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to convey the thanks of this Synod to the following Railroad Companies, for passing its members over their respective roads at reduced rates of fare, viz.: Pennsylvania Central, Northern Central, Baltimore and Ohio, Cumberland Valley, Frederick and State Line, State Line and Hanover, Hanover Branch, Western Maryland, and Gettysburg Railroads.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be directed to furnish a copy of the foregoing resolutions to each of the four newspapers published in the place.

The roll was called, and none were found absent without permission.

The Minutes were read and adopted, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIII.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be in *convention*—to be composed of all the ministers within the bounds of Synod, and one elder from each pastoral charge.

Resolved, That we adjourn to meet again in annual sessions in the Reformed church of Winchester, Va., on Wednesday, the 20th of October, A.D., 1875, at 7½ o'clock, P.M.

Adjourned with the repetition of the Apostles' Creed, the singing of the Gloria in Excelsis, praying the Lord's Prayer, and the Apostolic Benediction by the President.

S. N. CALLENDER, *President*.

Attest,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Official copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Discom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	Z. S. Sch's.	Benev. Contribu's.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Joseph W. Santee,	4 Cavetown,	395	185	31	28	5	370		1	7	4	200	\$136 73		Cavetown, Washington Co., Md.
George L. Staley, D. D.,	1 Knoxville, Supply,	25	15		5		25						53 85		Knoxville, Frederick do
Frederick A. Rupley,	1 Middletown,	320	280	28	10	1	300		15	9	1	250	180 00		Middletown, do do
Edmund R. Eschbach,*	1 Evangelical Reformed	576	565				500								Frederick, do do
Nicholas E. Gilds,	4 Mechanicstown,	302	175	12	12	1	250		1	5	2	150	80 00		Mechanicstown, do do
William Goodrich,	2 Clearspring,	150	100		6	2	140			9	2	150			Clearspring, Washington do
Simon S. Miller,	2 Boonsboro,	152	98	6			145			1	2	160	164 50		Boonsboro, do do
J. Spangler Kieffer,	2 Hagerstown,	243	211	23	10	1	223		4	10	1	240	423 49		Hagerstown, do do
Abner R. Kremer,	2 Emmittsburg,	340	220	26	11	4	233		1	5	2	40	137 50		Emmittsburg, Frederick do
William C. Cremer,	3 Westminster,	550	420	52	30	6	490		7	22	2	250	120 00		Westminster, Carroll do
W. Augustus Gring,	3 Mt. Moriah,	141	65	5	3	3	130		6	6	3	220	70 00		Keedysville, Washington do
Daniel Gans, D. D.,	1 Third Church,	291	220	20	19	5	240		2	6	2	356	275 00		67 N. Paca St., Baltimore, do
Thomas L. Poulson,	1 First Eng. Church,	170	75	12	25	9	100		3	1	1	100	50 00		26 N. Stricker St., do do
W. F. Colliflower,	1 Christ's Church,	63	45	9	4	1	58		1	2	1	55			Hagerstown, Washington do
J. Mortimer Souder,	3 Mt. Pleasant,	100	70	16	6	5	75		1	6	1	57	60 03		Mt. Pleasant, Frederick do
Herman Biefeld,	1 St John's Church,	135		7	7	2	115		2	1	1	66	30 00		Frederick, do do
Mortimer L. Shuford,	1 Burkittsville,	115	40	9	8	11	100		1	1	1	30	27 50		Burkittsville, do do
P. Allison Long,	4 Taneytown,	470	454	28	9	1	450		8	3	250	32 00			Taneytown, Carroll do
M. Treiber,	1 First Church,	70	36	11	1	60	1		6	1	40	11 00			Washington City, D. C.
Orange E. Lake,*	4 Glade,	350	340	4	1	280			3	3	140	311 00			Walkersville, Frederick Co., Md.
Julius G. Erhard,	Without charge,														Aintab, Syria.
Benj. Schneider, D. D.,	Foreign Missionary,	365	283	66			350		28	3					
Vacant,	3 Manchester,	376	325	9	3		366		2	10	4	300	68 86		
do	4 Jefferson,	192	102	15	10	13	147		2	8	1	225	131 00		
do	1 First Church,	500		49	63	12	550								
Charles Cast,*	1 Fourth Church,														
Total, 23.		6391	4324	352	270	70	5901		42	149	44	4009	\$2640 46	2	100 Lee St., Baltimore, Md.

* Recently taken charge.

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	Chrgs.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schol's.	S. S. Schol's.	Benev. Contrib's.	Candidates for Min'ry.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
John C. Hensell,	3	Rockingham,	200	195	5	7	186	186			1	3	150	\$60 00		Mt. Crawford, Rock'm Co., Va.
Geo. H. Martin,	4	Woodstock,	320	16	5	2	300	85			3	2	25	100 00		Woodstock, Shenandoah Co
H. St. J. Rinker,	1	Lovettsville,	87	60	2		85				1	25		9 80		Lovettsville, Loudon do
Sam'l N. Callender, D.D.,	2	Mt. Crawford,	191		7	3	175			2	3	1		78 26		Harrisonburg, Rockingham do
Joseph S. Loose,		Without charge,														do do
Joel T. Rossiter,	1	Shepherdstown,	119	115	12	2	3	111		2	7	1	85	70 00		Shepherdstown, Jefferson do
C. G. Fisher,	3	Winchester,	95	64	5	2	68				3	1	40	18 82		Winchester, Frederick do
Henry Tallhelm,	3	Edenburgh,	187	220	15	9	1	165		3	4	1	35	13 84		Edenburgh, Shenandoah do
Wm. C. B. Shulenberger,	2	Middlebrook,	147				140							26 25		Middlebrook, Augusta do
A. J. Bowers,	4	Licentiate,			4	2	200				2			21 05		Weyers' Cave, do
Vacant,	4	Mill Creek,	240		9	19	8	200		6	9	1	150	19 53		
do	1	Martinsburg,	220													
Total, 10.	23		1806	654	75	47	161604			15	32	11	485	\$467 55	2	

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schols.	S. S. Sch'l's.	Stud. for Holy Mtn.	Benef. Contribu's.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	N. C.
George W. Welker,	3 Guilford,	275	200	11	15		250		3	6	2			\$17 40	Greensboro,	N. C.
Jeremiah Ingold,	4 Without charge,	250	175	21	9	1	225								Hickory Tavern,	do
Thomas Long,	2 Upper Davidson,	255		9	6	2	240			10	2				Salem,	do
Jesse W. Ceeli,	2 West Rowan,														Thomasville,	do
John Ingle,	Without charge,	411		13	42	1	410			6	3	120	1	150 00	China Grove,	do
Jacob C. Clapp,	6 Catawba,	250	179	25	2	2	240		2	3					Newton,	do
John C. Denny,	2 East Rowan,	144	63	8	18	7	140		2	4					Gold Hill,	do
Peter M. Trexler,	3 Central,	185		13	11	175									Salisbury,	do
M. L. Hedrick,	4 Lower Davidson,														Lexington,	do
J. A. Felt,*	Catawba,	170	160	8	4	160				2					Newton,	do
J. H. Shuford,	4 Grace,														Hickory Tavern,	do
Total, 11.		1940	777	103	107	11	1840		7	31	7	120	1	\$167 40		

* Co. Pas'or.

GERMAN CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

MINISTERS.	Cong.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communi- cants.	Recom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schol's.	S. S. Schol's.	Benev. Contribu's.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Marcus Bachman, J. Conrad Hauser, Gothold L. Neef, Jacob Pister,	1 1 1 2	1 Fifth Ch., Baltimore, 1 Sixth Ch., do 1 Seventh Ch., do Independent Cong.,	536 400 450 1386	360 250 200 810	142 95 237	44 38 82	14 26 40	500 300 400 1200		14	36 34 70	2 1 3	350 200 550	\$83 27 104 55 \$187 82		127 Bank St., Baltimore, Md. 107 N. Schroeder St., do 73 Alsqnich St., do

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTERS.	CHANGES.	Coop.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communi- cants.	Kecomm.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'ls.	Benev. Contrib's.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Frederick Fox,	1 Napa		22	40	10	3		22		10	3	1	1	45		Napa, Napa County, California,
Julius H. Krueger,	1 San Francisco		26	41	20	6	23	23						1		San Francisco, do
J. Muellerhaupt,	1 Stockton		52	72	18	4	48	48			2	1	1	60		Stockton, do
John Gantenb in,	1 Portland															Portland, Oregon.
		4	100	152	54	7	6	93		10	5	3	181			

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	CLASSES.														
	Minist'rs.	Congreg's.	Members.	Unconfr'd Members.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi-cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	S. School	Students for Holy Ministry.	Benev. Contribu's.
Zion,	26	74	6,643	5,790	646	517	112	7,277		76	254	95	3,712	3	\$3,750 27
Maryland,	23	51	6,391	4,324	352	270	70	5,901		42	149	44	4,009	2	2,640 46
Mercersburg,	29	67	6,228	4,348	387	322	154	5,594	2	68	135	57	3,800	23	4 389 61
Virginia,	10	23	1,806	654	75	47	16	1,640		15	32	711	485	2	467 55
North Carolina,	11	28	1,940	777	103	107	11	1,840		7	31	7	120	1	167 40
German Maryland,	4	3	1,386	810	237	82	40	1,200		14	70	3	550		187 82
San Francisco,	4	4	100	153	54	7	6	93		10	5	3	181		
Total, 7 Classes.	107	250	26,494	16,856	1,854	1,352	409	23,509	2	232	676	220	12,937	31	\$11,603 91
Synod of the U. States, 10 Classes,	192	440	67,154	37,380	6,940	3,980	1,367	52,931	24	739	2,509	461	31,154	45	43,230 97
Synod of Ohio, 10 Classes,	144	338	23,083	12,778	2,118	1,434	667	18,794	195	306	526	227	16,188	8	12,767 02
Synod of the North West, 8 Classes,	109	179	12,717	10,877	1,463	786	1,001	10,681	52	176	420	132	6,810	2	8,486 95
Synod of Pittsburg, 6 Classes,	67	131	10,824	10,171	1,097	806	393	9,213	7	197	313	79	5,640	10	14,885 52
Total, 5 Synods; 41 Classes,	619	1,338	140,272	88,062	13,472	8,352	3,337	115,128	280	1,050	4,444	1,120	72,729	96	\$90,974 37

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ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH,

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

Winchester, Va., October, A. D., 1875.

PHILADELPHIA, PA.:

Reformed Church Publication Board,

No. 907 Arch Street.

1875.

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

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IN THE

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CONVENED IN CONVENTION,

WINCHESTER, VA., OCTOBER, 1875.

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REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD, No. 907 ARCH STREET.
1875.

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ART. XX. PUBLICATION.
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ART. XXII. RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.
ART. XXIII. ADJOURNMENT.

Third Annual Meeting.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its Annual Sessions, convened in Convention in the City of Winchester, Va., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Five. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the Twentieth, and continued until the afternoon of the Twenty fifth day of the month, inclusive.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

THE Synod met in Convention on Wednesday evening, Oct. 20th, A. D., 1875, at 7½ o'clock, in Centenary Reformed Church of the City of Winchester, Frederick county, Virginia, pursuant to appointment of last Annual Meeting, and was opened with the usual religious services. The President, Rev. S. N. Callender, D.D., preached the opening sermon from John xx. 22: "*And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost;*" and 1 Cor. iv. 1: "*Let a man so account of us, as of the ministers of Christ, and Stewards of the mysteries of God.*"

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE OLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers.—Joseph W. Santee, D.D., Edmund R. Eschbach, William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, J. Spangler Kieffer, Abner R. Kremer, William C. Cremer, Daniel Gaus, D.D., Mortimer L. Shuford, Orange E. Lake, Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, J. Mortimer Souder, and George L. Staley, D D.

Elders.—Henry Reynolds, Louis Markell, Joseph Seibert, George J. Fouke, William A. Hull, Edward D. Zimmerman, Jacob H. Bowlers, Goldsboro S. Griffith, James E. Dodrer, and Ezra Williard.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers.—William M. Deatrick, Adam C. Whitmer, Peter S. Davis, D.D., John A. Peters, William C. Schaeffer, Henry F. Seiple, Samuel R. Bridenbaugh, David N. Dittmar, David M. Whitmore, El-nathan E. Higbee, D.D., John H. Sykes, Ambrose C. Geary, Milton H. Sangree, Stephen K. Kremer, Albert G. Dole, Harrison H. W. Hibshman, Solomon B. Schafer, Ellis N. Kremer, Prof. Jacob B. Kerschner, Jacob Hassler, and the licentiate John C. Bowman.

Elders.—David Diehl, George B. Smith, John D. Eckhard, John Bowman, Adam B. Wingerd, Jacob F. Hoover, John P. Reed, David Dunn, Alvy B. Bowen, and Isaac M. Neff.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers.—H. St. John Rinker, Samuel N. Callender, D.D., Charles G. Fisher, and Henry Tallhelm.

Elders.—Moses Fry, William W. Wenner, Joseph Snapp, William A. Cushwa, George W. Lantz, Peter J. Roller, John H. Bauserman, Stephen Staley, and William J. S. Hensell.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers.—William K. Zieber, D.D., William R. H. Deatrick, Jacob D. Zehring, Reinehart R. Smith, Owen L. Ashenfelter, Aaron Spangler, Francis S. Lindaman, Israel S. Weisz, Reuben Rauhauser, William F. Colliflower, and Jacob O. Miller, D.D.

Elders.—George Myers, William H. Bange, Samuel P. Young, Henry M. Cocklin, Henry S. Hershey, Jeremiah G. Hildebrand, Elias Heilman, George L. Ickes, Francis M. McKeehan, Michael B. Emig, David Wolf, Israel Laucks, and Samuel Shumaker.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

* * * * *

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

* * * * *

NOTE.—A number of members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session, and hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would, had they been present at the opening session. A number of members also obtained leave of absence from day to day. In one instance—from Virginia Clasiss—the name of an Elder *secundus* appears in the foregoing list of members together with his *primarius*.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

From the Synod of the United States.—Revs. S. R. Fisher, D.D., and F. K. Levan.

From the Classis of Zion.—Elder Henry Wirt.

From the Classis of Virginia.—Elder Richard L. Gray.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of the following ministers was announced at intervals during the sessions of Synod :

Revs. A. M. Courtney, of the Methodist Episcopal Church ; S. Billings, of the Presbyterian Church ; D. M. Gilbert, of the Lutheran Church ; E. J. Willis and E. Lewis, of the Baptist Church ; and B. Arbogast, of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. P. S. Davis was chosen *President*.

Rev. W. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*.

Rev. J. W. Santee was re-elected *Corresponding Secretary*.

Elder Louis Markell was re-elected *Treasurer*.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The reading of the Rules of Order was dispensed with for the present sessions of Synod.

The Synod defined the bar of the house, as required by the Rules of Order.

The following hours were fixed upon for opening and closing the present sessions of Synod :

The Morning Sessions, to open at 9 and close at 12 o'clock.

The Afternoon Sessions, to open at 2½ and close at 5 o'clock.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the President:

Religious Services.—Revs. C. G. Fisher, H. St. J. Linker, W. Goodrich, and Elders J. Snapp, and D. Diehl.

Minutes of Synod.—Revs. W. M. Deatrick, N. H. Skyles, A. G. Dole, and Elders J. Bowman, and W. W. Wenner.

Minutes of General Synod.—Revs. O. L. Ashenfelter, I. S. Weisz, J. D. Zehring, and Elders J. H. Bauserman, and E. D. Zimmerman.

Overtures.—Revs E. R. Eschbach, W. K. Zieber, H. Tallhelm, and Elders G. J. Fouke, and W. H. Bauge.

Minutes of Classes.—Revs. W. F. Coluflower, W. R. H. Deatrick, M. H. Sangree, and Elders H. Reynolds, and W. A. Cushwa.

Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.—Revs. D. Gans, W. K. Zieber, A. C. Whitmer, and Elders H. M. Cocklin, and G. W. Lantz.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports.—Revs. J. T. Rossiter, W. C. Cremer, J. A. Peters, and Elders J. P. Reed, and F. M. McKeehan.

Missions.—Revs. S. S. Miller, M. L. Shuford, J. M. Souder, and Elders P. S. Roller, and J. Seibert.

Finance.—Revs. J. S. Kieffer, O. E. Lake, H. H. W. Hibshman, and Elders W. A. Hull, and G. S. Griffith.

Nominations.—Revs. E. E. Higbee, S. N. Callender, W. Goodrich, and Elders A. B. Wingerd, and L. Markell.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Mercersburg, Maryland, Zion, Virginia, and North Carolina were received, and referred to the Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports, which were referred to the Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read, and then referred to the Committee on Finance.

3. The Reports of the President, the General Superintendent, and the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions of the three District Synods of the United States, the Potomac, and Pittsburgh were received, severally read, and then referred to the Committee on Missions.

4. Eleven other communications were received, and referred to the Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following Religious Services:

1. All the sessions were opened and closed with suitable religious services.

2. The Committee on Religious Services submitted their report, which was received and adopted as follows:

The Committee on Religious Services beg leave to report the following appointments for religious services:

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD.

Thursday evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. S. Kieffer.

Friday evening.—Synodical Sunday-school Board's services; conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith, member of the Sunday-school Board.

Saturday afternoon.—Services preparatory to the Holy Communion at 2½ o'clock. Sermon by Rev. J. H. Sykes.

Sunday morning.—Celebration of the Lord's Supper; sermon by Rev. J. W. Santee.

Sunday afternoon.—Sunday-school services: addresses by Revs. W. R. H. Deatrich, J. O. Miller, and Elder F. M. McKeegan.

Sunday evening.—Sermon by Rev. E. E. Higbee, President of Mercersburg College.

Monday evening.—Missionary Meeting: services conducted by Rev. J. O. Miller, President of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.

All these services, except the preparatory services, were held in the Market Street Methodist Episcopal Church, the largest church edifice of the place, which had been kindly offered by the Pastor, the Rev. A. M. Courtney and his membership, for the use of Synod. The Reformed Church being smaller, the sessions of Synod and the preparatory services were held in it.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES OF WINCHESTER.

Kent Street Presbyterian Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev. E. N. Kremer.

Loudon Street Presbyterian Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev. O. L. Ashenfelter.

Methodist Episcopal Church, South.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev. W. C. Cremer. *Sunday evening.* Sermon by Rev. J. Hassler.

Lutheran Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev. J. T. Rossiter.

Baptist Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev. I. S. Weisz.
Protestant Episcopal Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev.
 P. S. Davis. *Sunday evening.* Sermon by Rev. E. R. Eschbach.

COLORED CHURCHES.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Sunday morning.* Sermon by Rev.
 W. F. Colliflower. *Sunday evening.* Sermon by Rev. H. H. W.
 Hibshman.

Freewill Baptist Church.—Sermon by Rev. F. S. Lindaman. *Sun-
 day evening.* Sermon by Rev. H. Tallhelm.

Respectfully submitted.

C. G. FISHER, *Chairman.*

The religious services, as appointed by the committee, were severally
 observed.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD AND GENERAL SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last annual meeting and of the
 General Synod of Fort Wayne was dispensed with, and the printed
 Minutes of last annual meeting were referred to the Committee on
 Minutes of Synod, to report the items of unfinished business claiming
 the attention of this meeting; and those of the General Synod were
 referred to the Committee on Minutes of General Synod.

The Committees submitted the following reports, which were re-
 ceived and disposed of item by item.

I. MINUTES OF THE SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

The Committee, to whom was referred the Minutes of the Synod
 of last year for examination, would report the following items of un-
 finished business, as claiming the attention of this Synod, viz.:

Item 1, page 13. A resolution directing the North Carolina, Vir-
 ginia, and Maryland Classes to open an additional column in their
 Statistical tables for the number of students preparing for the Holy
 Ministry, as requested by the General Synod of Cincinnati.

Item 2, page 28. Recommendations to the several Classes of this
 Synod in regard to missionary festivals, missionary services and col-
 lections in our Sunday-schools, and the acceptance of the apportion-
 ment of \$3,300 upon this Synod, as indicated by the Board of Home
 Missions.

Item 3, page 30. Assessments upon the several Classes for the Contingent Fund of Synod.

Item 4, page 30. The continuance of the Committee of Conference, with instructions, of which Rev. D. Y. Heisler is chairman, to adjust certain matters in reference to Beneficiary Education, etc., between this Synod and the Synod of the United States.

Item 5, page 31. The Stated Clerk is instructed to notify the Classes of Mercersburg and North Carolina of the refusal of the Synod of the United States to exonerate them from any portion of their assessments for Contingent Fund, as made by said Synod in 1872.

Item 6, page 31. The Treasurer is instructed to pay \$232.00 to the Treasurer of the Board of Church Extension, being the amount assessed upon this Synod to liquidate the debt resting upon said Board.

Item 7, page 33. Rev. F. A. Rupley gives notice of *Complaint* to the General Synod in the Rice Appeal Case, and Revs. S. N. Callender and J. S. Kieffer were appointed to defend the Synod before the General Synod of Fort Wayne, held last May.

Item 8, page 34. Rev. F. A. Rupley gives notice of *Complaint*, in the Birly Complaint Case, from the decision of Synod to the General Synod, and the same Committee, as in the Rice Appeal Case, is appointed to defend the action of Synod before the General Synod of Fort Wayne.

Item 9, page 35. The subject of the preparation of a system of Lessons for Sabbath-schools is committed into the hands of the Sunday-School Board.

Item 10, page 36. The Committee on Synodical Boundaries, of which Rev. J. A. Peters is Chairman, is continued with instructions.

Item 11, page 36. The Committee of Conference on union with the Reformed Church in America, of which Rev. J. O. Miller is Chairman, is continued.

Item 12, page 36. The Committee appointed to aid in drafting a new Constitution, of which Rev. E. E. Higbee is Chairman, is continued.

Item 13, page 36. The Classes are directed to see that the Charters of congregations harmonize with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States.

Item 14, page 36. The attention of the several Classes is called anew to the importance of having full and complete statistical reports, etc.

Item 15, page 37. The German Maryland Classis is dismissed for the purpose of forming, with other German Classes, a German Synod in the eastern portion of the Church.

Item 16, page 39. The Stated Clerk is instructed to have twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of the last Synod published, and distributed among those entitled to receive them.

Item 17, page 42. The Society for the Relief of Ministers and

Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church in the United States, is anew commended to the confidence and support of our churches, etc.

Item 18, page 46. Synod adopts the Selection of Hymns, and recommends its introduction and use in our congregations, as far as possible and expedient, and also appoints Rev. Dr. Higbee, Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., and Rev. Prof. J. B. Kerschner as a committee, who, in conjunction with a similar committee from the Synod of the United States, shall have power to prepare and publish an edition of the Collection of Hymns with music: and furthermore, Synod expresses a willingness to bear a certain proportion of the expenses incurred in doing so.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Chairman.*

The duty in item 1, having been attended to, the item was adopted. For the action of Synod on item 2, see Article X., Minutes of Classes; on items 3, 4, 5 and 6, see Article XV., Finance; on items 7 and 8, see Article XVII., Complaints; on item 9, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; on items 10, 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15, see Article XIX., Church Government; on item 16, see Article XX., Publication; on items 17 and 18, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

II. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL SYNOD OF FORT WAYNE.

To the Potomac Synod.

Your Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod reports as follows:

Item 1, page 44. A resolution referring the subject of Home Missions to the District Synods' Boards.

Item 2, page 47. A resolution referring the Sunday-school interest to the District Synods.

Item 3, page 53. A recommendation to the District Synods concerning delegates' expenses to the Synods of the Church.

Item 4, page 66. An assessment of \$166.00 upon the Synod of the Potomac for Contingent Fund.

Item 5, page 73. The General Synod will hold its next meeting in the First Reformed Church of Lancaster, Pa., commencing on Wednesday Evening, May 15th, A. D., 1878, at 8 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted.

O. L. ASHENFELTER, *Chairman.*

Items 1, 2 and 5, were simply adopted; for the action of Synod on item 3, see Article XIX., Church Government; and on item 4, see Article XV., Finance.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Committee on Overtures submitted their report, which was received and disposed of item by item, and is as follows, viz :

The Committee on Overtures beg leave to report as follows :

1. A request from the German Maryland Classis, asking to be released from the payment of \$12.00 assessed upon said Classis for Contingent Fund of Synod.

2. A letter from Rev. J. H. Krueger of San Francisco, Cal., requesting to be excused from attendance upon the present sessions of this Synod.

3. A letter from Rev. T. L. Poulson of Baltimore, Md., asking to be excused from attendance upon the present sessions of Synod.

4. Report of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States.

5. Report from the Board of the Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa.

6. A complete form on which to report the statistics of the Classes, transmitted by the Stated Clerk of the General Synod to the Stated Clerk of this Synod.

7. Report from the Secretary of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

8. Transcript of certain action taken by the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its regular meeting, held on the 13th of October, 1875, accompanied with a brief statement of the financial condition of the Board.

9. A letter from Rev. F. Fox of Napa City, Cal., requesting to be excused for his non-attendance upon the present sessions of this body, and appealing for prompt missionary support.

10. A request in behalf of the Friends of the Sabbath in Philadelphia, Pa., asking this Synod to pass some resolutions against the opening of the Centennial grounds on the Sabbath, during the coming national Celebration.

11. A letter from Rev. J. Muellhaupt of Stockton, Cal., in which he asks to be excused for his non-attendance upon the present sessions of Synod.

12. A communication from the President of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.

13. Reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.

Respectfully submitted.

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article XV., Finance; on items 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; and on items 12 and 13, see Article XIV., Missions.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes submitted their report, which was received, disposed of item by item, and is as follows :

The Committee on Minutes of Classes respectfully submit the following report, viz :

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. The President of the Virginia Classis submitted to date the circulars addressed to its members in the call of two special meetings.

2. The same Classis neglected to record the names of the officers in the organization at its last annual meeting.

3. The San Francisco Classis failed to furnish the Synod with a copy of its Proceedings.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

The Maryland Classis adopted the following resolution in regard to the present form of the *Reformed Church Messenger*, etc., viz.:

Resolved, That while this Classis hopes that the present form of the *Messenger* may not be permanent, we acquiesce in its present necessity: but that we respectfully ask the Synod of the Potomac to take such measures, in respect to securing a combination of regular contributors to the *Messenger*, as may give a higher character to its contents.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

1. The Zion's, Maryland, Mercersburg, and Virginia Classes took favorable action upon the subjects of Missions, Beneficiary Education, Change of Charters, Statistical Reports, Widows' Fund Society, and the circulation of the periodicals of the Church.

2. The North Carolina Classis passed over the subjects of Change of Charters, and Widows' Fund Society, "as needing no action."

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED AND DISMISSED.

1. Zion's Classis received the Licentiate James I. Good from the Lebanon Classis, and ordained him; ordained the licentiate William H. Herbert; licensed George C. Hall; received the Rev. Wm. F. Colliflower from the Maryland Classis; dismissed the Rev. Frederick Fox, Rev. J. Muellhaupt, and Rev. Julius H. Krueger to the Classis of San Francisco; the Rev. Aaron H. Leiss to the Lebanon Classis; the Rev. James Crawford to the West Susquehanna Classis; and the Rev. Henry Wissler to the Maryland Classis.

2. Maryland Classis received the Rev. David W. Kelley from the East Susquehanna Classis; the Rev. Joel T. Rossiter from the Virginia Classis; the Rev. Nehemiah H. Skyles from the Mercersburg Classis; the Rev. Henry Wissler from the Zion's Classis; dismissed the Rev. Herman Bielfeld and St. John's Church of Frederick City, Md., and Rev. M. Treiber and the First Reformed Church of Washington City, D. C., to the German Maryland Classis; the Rev. Wm. F. Colliflower to the Zion's Classis; and erased the name of Julius G. Erhard.

3. Mercersburg Classis received the licentiate Henry F. Seiple from the Philadelphia Classis, and ordained him; licensed and ordained David M. Whitmore, David N. Dittmar, and Samuel R. Bridenbaugh; licensed John C. Bowman; and dismissed the Rev. N. H. Skyles to the Maryland Classis.

4. Virginia Classis ordained the licentiate A. J. Bowers; and dismissed the Rev. Joel T. Rossiter to the Maryland Classis.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

1. Zion's Classis will meet in the Reformed Church of Carlisle, Cumberland County, Pa., on the third Friday in May, the 19th, 1876, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. M. Kieffer, D. D., *President*, and Rev. W. R. H. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk*.

2. Maryland Classis will meet in St. Paul's Reformed Church of Westminster, Carroll County, Md., on Thursday before Ascension Day, May 18th, 1876, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. Abner R. Kremer, *President*, and Rev. Simon S. Miller, *Stated Clerk*.

3. Mercersburg Classis will meet in the Reformed Church of Greencastle, Franklin County, Pa., on Wednesday evening, May 17th, 1876, at 7½ o'clock. Rev. A. C. Whitmer, *President*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk*.

4. Virginia Classis will meet in Grace Reformed Church of Shennandoah County, Va., on Thursday, before the third Sunday in May, 1876, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. G. H. Martin, *President*, and Rev. Henry St. John Rinker, *Stated Clerk*.

5. North Carolina Classis will meet in the Brick Church, in the Guilford Charge, on Thursday before the fourth Lord's Day in May, 1876, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Rev. J. Ingold, *President*, and Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*.

6. San Francisco Classis will meet in * * *

Respectfully submitted.

WM. F. COLLIFLOWER, *Chairman*.

The items were severally adopted, and the Report was then adopted as a whole.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND ORDINATION.

The Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination made the following report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

Your Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination beg leave to report, that no applications having been made, the Committee have had nothing to do.

Respectfully submitted.

D. GANS, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports submitted their report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows, viz :

Reverend Fathers and Brethren of the Synod of the Potomac :—
Your Committee on the State of Religion respectfully submit the following as their report :

In presenting this the third Annual Report, we are moved by the spirit and tenor of the Classical Reports placed in our hands, to render devout thanksgiving and praise unto Him the once crucified, but now exalted Saviour, who yet liveth and reigneth in His body, the Church, with the Father, who has delivered us from the power of darkness and translated us into the kingdom of His dear Son ; and unto the Holy Ghost, the Enlightener and Comforter, who in the Church abides with us forever, and carries on the work of our Redemption—the glorious Trinity—for the temporal and spiritual mercies and blessings vouchsafed unto us as a Synod during the past year. As we stand to-day on this eminence, the close of another year of grace, and look back over the incessant and weary toils, we are made to rejoice together that our labor has not been in vain in the Lord. The fruitage of the year's work, so rich and full, which the reports note, demands an everlasting song of praise. And it is but meet, right, and our fitting duty, that we should in this public way, give expression of our heartfelt gratitude unto the Great Head of the Church for the signal manner in which He has crowned the humble labors of His servants.

The pleasant intelligence comes to us that under the blessing of God, the ministry generally have been enabled to scatter the seeds of divine truth, to administer the Holy Sacraments—to nurture the baptized youth in the Sunday-school and in the Catechetical class—to visit the sick and afflicted, and to offer a proclamation of pardon to

all who have been rebellious and wicked, in the words of the Saviour, "Whosoever will, let him come." And the blessed results of this faithful service in the Lord's vineyard have been a steady increase of attendance upon the preaching of the word, in the number of Baptisms, Confirmations, and Communicants, and also in an increase of the spirit of benevolence in the cause of missions—in cheering the hearts of fatherless children—in supporting our institutions of learning—in the organization of new charges, and in the erection of new and churchly edifices, which symbolize that "beauty of holiness," in which Christians are exhorted to worship the Lord. These evidences of outward growth, with many others of a similar character, are to the minds of your Committee, testimonials of corresponding progress in the powers of the inner life. And these indications of real church prosperity, are not marvelous when we keep in mind that Christianity is the highest order of life, and that the Holy Ghost has but used His own ordained means to quicken and confirm the faith of the Son of God in the hearts of the people, and not some spasmodic effort on the part of the ministry, nor temporary excitement of religious sentiment, whose cessation is sure to be followed by a state of coldness and inactivity.

But while in these particulars we have pleasing and encouraging evidences of the presence and power of the Spirit in the Church, it cannot be concealed that there are many things which call for humiliation on our part, that God may not enter into judgment with us. The spirit and practice of benevolence though increased, notwithstanding the financial pressure over the whole country, are not what they should be to meet the pressing demands made upon us from different quarters. Our missionaries are crying for money wherewith to buy bread for their families. Contributions for the support of beneficiary education are inadequate to enable the young men we have under our fostering care, to continue their studies uninterruptedly, and pastoral charges are vacant in many instances from want of sufficient pastoral support. These, together with a *lack* in some instances of that spirit which will be neither ashamed nor afraid, to speak, and act and live for the Church of our Fathers, constitute some of our weaknesses and shortcomings, and call for renewed activity, and entire personal consecration, on the altar of the gospel, in soul and body, property and life, to our blessed Master's service.

The Church Year, with its Advent and Epiphanies, its Lenten solemnity, reaching its acme, in Good Friday, its Resurrection and mysterious appearances beyond the tomb, its Ascension and outpouring of the Holy Ghost, connected with the founding of the Church, and its development in the graces of the Spirit, the practical experiences and the great duties of the Christian reaching on through the Trinity season, until with grateful hearts Advent is again hailed, has been generally followed, and the different fasts and festivals duly observed.

The Sunday-school cause has received during the past year, a larger share of attention, than in any previous year, perhaps, of our Church history. Catechetical instruction is becoming more and more introduced into the schools of the Church; and more earnest efforts are being made, to make the whole teaching for young and old revolve round the distinctive confessional basis of our good old symbol, the Heidelberg Catechism. The Lesson Papers prepared by our Board of Publication on the Church Year, have been pretty generally adopted, and as a result are bringing about a *uniformity* of instruction for the children and youth throughout the domain of our Synod, a firmer education of our children in the system of the Church Year, and an increased interest in the Church festivals. This increased interest for the provision of the *lambs* of the flock, members of God's holy family, through the sacrament of Baptism marks a clearer apprehension of the true relation, nature and design of the Sunday-school.

Our brethren in North Carolina and California, and the latter in different communications, send us greetings, and express their regret, that circumstances, distance and want of pecuniary means, not inclination, prevent them from assembling with us in this third annual session. We as a Synod should in a special manner extend our cordial sympathy to our brethren on the Pacific coast and offer our prayers for their welfare, and assure them, that though absent, they shall not be forgotten, by tangible proofs of our sympathy and love.

In conclusion it is encouraging to note that whilst a large number of standard-bearers have been added to our ranks in the Church militant during the past year, but *one*, Rev. Father Bossler, has been taken hence to the Church triumphant in the world beyond the grave. He rests from his labors, but his works, the blessed influence of his ministry here, like the circling waves which eddy around the stone dropped in mid ocean, will continue to widen and expand until it dies away on the shores of eternity. Death to him was only birth, to a higher and more glorious destiny. "Write, blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth; yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors, and their works do follow them."

And now, unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly, above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Respectfully submitted.

J. T. ROSSITER.

(For Statistical Tables see Appendix.)

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Education made its annual report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

To the Synod of the Potomac :—

The Board of Education met in Hanover, Pa., on the 26th of October, 1874, and organized by the re-election of the officers of the previous year, viz. : Rev. P. S. Davis, President ; Rev. I. G. Brown, Secretary, and Elder David C. Hammond, Treasurer.

During the past year the Board has had under its care the following beneficiary students, to whom appropriations have been made.

Mercersburg Classis, John C. Bowman, David N. Dittmar, David M. Whitmore, William I. Stewart, Anderson J. Whitmore, Henry S. Garner, Isaac N. Peightel, Samuel C. Long, Samuel H. Eisenberg, Albert A. Black, Daniel H. Leader and George B. Resser.

Zion's Classis, George C. Hall, George P. Hartzel, H. G. Comfort and Conrad H. Nagle.

Maryland Classis, Marion L. Firor and Lewis Zinckham.

Virginia Classis, George A. Whitmore and Samuel L. Whitmore.

Of these John C. Bowman, David N. Dittmar, together with Samuel R. Bridenbaugh who had completed their Theological course at Lancaster, Pa., and David M. Whitmore, who had taken the Post Graduate course at Mercersburg College, were licensed to preach the Gospel by the Mercersburg Classis. Messrs. Bridenbaugh, Whitmore, and Dittmar were also ordained to the Gospel Ministry by the same Classis, and are now settled in pastoral charges.

Zion's Classis licensed one of its beneficiary students, George C. Hall, and erased the name of Conrad H. Nagle from its list of beneficiary students.

The amounts paid for Beneficiary Education are as follows, viz. :

Mercersburg Classis,	\$1,324 30
Zion's Classis,	497 55
Virginia Classis,	276 83
Maryland Classis,	94 24
<hr/>	
Making,	\$2,192 92

Besides those already mentioned as receiving beneficiary assistance, the following students have been pursuing their studies under the care of the various Classes composing the Synod: George M. Zacharias, at Lancaster, Pa., deriving the benefit of the Smaltz Fund. At

Mercersburg, George F. Mull, Isaac M. Motter, Bart. R. Carnahan, John M. Schick, W. Wilberforce Deatrick, and John North.

Very little money passes through the hands of the Treasurer of the Board. It is generally paid to the Treasurers of the Classes, and by them directly to the beneficiary students.

The Bonds required from the beneficiary students are also usually given to the various Classes.

It will be necessary, during this meeting, to elect seven persons to constitute your Board of Education, and it is recommended that they be continued in office three years.

Your Board in obedience to the instructions of Synod, attended the examinations of the students pursuing the Post-Graduate course of Mercersburg College, and are happy to say that they proved very satisfactory.

In conclusion, your Board feels justified in calling for increased and prompt contributions for Beneficiary Education. The want of the Church, just now, is earnest, well-educated men. Truly the harvest is plenteous, but the laborers are few.

Respectfully submitted.

P. S. DAVIS, *President of Board.*

On the last day of the sessions an election was held, agreeably to the foregoing recommendation, for seven members of the Board of Education, to serve for three years, which resulted in the choice of Revs. P. S. Davis, W. M. Deatrick, J. S. Kieffer, S. N. Callender, J. W. Santee, J. A. Peters, and Elder Jacob Heyser.

The new Board of Education immediately organized by electing the following officers :

Rev. P. S. Davis, of Chambersburg, Pa., *President.*

“ J. W. Santee, of Cavetown, Md., *Secretary.*

“ W. M. Deatrick, of Mercersburg, Pa., *Treasurer.*

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions submitted their Annual Report to Synod, together with the Reports of the Superintendent of Missions and the Treasurer of said Board, which were severally read, and then referred to the Committee on Missions. These reports are as follows, viz. :

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The Board of Home Missions, constituted of the three English Synods in the East, would respectfully call the attention of your Reverend Body to the pressing wants of your Board in carrying on its work. At the close of this year it was found, that we are indebted to our missionaries up to that date, October 1st, for one-half year's salary—about six thousand dollars. And that during the coming year we shall need nine thousand dollars additional to meet the wants of the Board.

During the past year the Board has reduced its expenses as much as possible,—at least three thousand dollars.

Heretofore your Board has borrowed money at different times to meet the pressing wants of its missionaries. But we find this not good policy, and hence have concluded henceforward to borrow no more money, but ask the Church to do its duty.

We now ask your earnest consideration of this general subject of missions, and pray that you will come to our aid, and provide for the pressing wants of our missionaries, who are crying for bread.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *President of Board.*

II. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S., the Synod of the Potomac, and the Synod of Pittsburgh.

DEAR FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The following missions have been under the care of your Board of Home Missions during the Synodical year just closed:

1. SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

Catasauqua, Pa.—Rev. A. B. Koplin, pastor. Has a very valuable property, and is making progress both internally and externally. Its debt, however, weighs upon it. Unless East Penna. Classis can either largely relieve this or strengthen the charge by the addition of a good congregation, the present appropriation of the Board will have to be reduced at a very slow rate. Prospects otherwise good, and the pastor's labors successful. Appropriation \$700; till January 1st. Undetermined beyond that time. German and English.

Reading, Pa.—*Christ Church*. Served by Rev. J. Fuendeling for ten months of the year. Since then by Rev. R. Kunz. For several months during the summer the affairs of this congregation were unsettled; in good condition now. By having the parochial school cease, and a small family on the part of the new pastor, we have been enabled to reduce the appropriation from \$700 to \$350, for the year. Prospects promising. German.

St. John's. Became vacant last March. Supplied during the summer. October first Rev. J. W. Steinmetz takes charge. App. for the first year \$400. Expected to be, shortly, self-supporting. German and English.

Philadelphia, Pa.—*St. Stephen's*, Rev. A. Romich, pastor. An old mission. About maintains its own from year to year. The dear brother who serves it as pastor has of late been much afflicted, having been laid low with fever himself, and having buried a child. App., old, \$225; new, \$200. This latter for six months.

St. John's, Rev. J. G. Noss, pastor. Growing. Our only English congregation in West Philadelphia with a population of 70,000. Good property, small debt. App. \$400. Continued.

Wyoming, Del.—Supplied part of the year. Since August under the pastoral care of Rev. W. F. Lichliter. This mission is central for our future efforts to build up the Reformed Church in the State of Delaware, whither many of our people are moving. A very substantial beginning has here been made. App., \$300. English.

Harrisburg, Pa.—*Second Church*, Rev. G. W. Snyder, pastor. This mission has gone forward without very material change. It has lost some good members by removal, owing to hard times, and it has gained others by its inner activity and growth. It has built an addition to its Church for Sunday-school purposes, and has a flourishing school. App., \$300, continued. English.

Zwingli, Rev. M. Noll, pastor. Maintains its own, and would grow in better times. Its inner condition seems to be gaining in permanent character. App. \$300, old; new, \$225. German.

Columbia, Pa.—Rev. C. Clever, pastor. Prosperous. App., old, \$200; new, \$150. English.

Hazleton, Pa.—*Emanuel's*. Rev. I. E. Graeff, pastor. Part of the year vacant. Latterly served by Rev. I. E. Graeff as pastor. Has been changed from German to German and English, as our First Church in the town is entirely German. Many East Penna. people live here, who need service in both languages. App. \$100.

- Overton, Pa.*—Rev. J. H. Schlappig, pastor. Reports progress. A Northern frontier mission of our Church. App. \$75; continued. English and German.
- Liverpool, Pa.*—Rev. W. Donat, pastor. Improving; so that the appropriation could be reduced since July 1st, from \$150 to \$80. English and German.
- Lykens, Pa.*—Rev. J. Kretzing, pastor. Since July a self-supporting charge by its connection with two other congregations. The late appropriation was \$350. English and German.
- South Bethlehem, Pa.*—Rev. N. Z. Snyder, pastor. Will be a self-supporting charge, in connection with other congregations from October 1st. Prosperous. Late App. \$200. English and German.

2. PITTSBURGH SYNOD.

- Kittanning, Pa.*—Rev. D. S. Dieffenbacher, pastor. Quite prosperous. Will soon be self-supporting. App. \$300 until June, 1875; since then \$225. English.
- Meadville, Pa.*—Rev. D. D. Leberman, pastor. Two congregations; one in town, and one in the country. Doing well. An old mission. App. \$150; now discontinued. English and German.
- Titusville, Pa.*—The late pastor, owing to well-known difficulties of the congregation, left with the close of last December. Vacant since. Should form a charge in connection with Corry and Union City. In its present condition it is next to impossible to run it as a mission. The late App. was \$300. German and English.
- Cumberland, Md.*—Rev. F. R. Schwedes, pastor. Doing well. A number of serious obstacles have been removed or relieved during the year. Church building improved and painted. A new point begun in connection with it at Keyser City. App. \$400; continued. German.
- Pittsburgh, Pa.*—*St. Paul's*, Rev. J. W. Ebbinghaus, pastor. Growing, though slowly. Labors under considerable debt. Building re-painted. Pastor hopeful in his work. App., old, \$300; new, \$200. German.
- St. James'*, Rev. C. Boerchers, pastor. Gaining every way in solid character. Located amidst a large German population. App., old, \$225; new, \$200. German.
- St. Luke's*, Rev. P. F. Schulke, pastor. New mission; hard work. Pastor moderately successful; labored earnestly. Now vacant. App. \$200. German.
- Trinity*, Rev. T. F. Stauffer, pastor. Has been from the first a flourishing mission. App., old, \$400; new, \$300; conditional. English.

EXPENSES.

It is interesting to study the expenditure required during the past two years, to do the work of missions in these three Synods, and the prospective cost for the next year on the basis of our present general plan. It must be distinctly borne in mind that during the year before the present our Board *received* simply the mission work as the several Synods and Classes had shaped it during preceding years. It took and carried forward what was given it ready to hand and on the list. It is true, it declined a few old missions, and carried a number of the rest only from four to six or nine months; and thus, of course, had its expenses *under* the figure of actual cost of all during the whole year. Yet the expense account of our Treasurer last October, 1874, stood:

Cash paid out.....	\$8,295.00
Orders unpaid.....	4,000.00
Total cost of Missions to the Board.....	<u>\$12,295.00</u>

During the second year, now closing, the Board had its own way to a large extent. It had itself relieved of some of the old missions, changed the appropriations of a few, and carried for part of the year the new missions, Salem's, Buffalo, N. Y., and that at Lock Haven, and during the whole year St. Luke's, Pittsburgh. Now the total expenses of the Board amount to \$11,000, which is \$1,300 less than the year before. The cost of carrying forward our mission work for the incoming year is estimated, as will be seen below, at \$9,500, including new missions, to the extent that they will affect us during the course of the year. This will be \$1,500 less than our expenses during the past year, and near \$3,000 less than when we got the missions.

For a statement of our income this year, and our actual indebtedness, we refer to the Treasurer's report.

We congratulate the Synods and the Church on the following points apparently secured in the way of positive, permanent progress:

1. The Board has come to have something like the proper control over all the missions under its care; and in the organization of new missions it is consulted, and in the general cause it is allowed consideration.
2. Missions can now be retired and old appropriations reduced to some effect; and this without injuring any one, while saving a large sum to the Treasury. Time and labor and system have brought this about.
3. We are rapidly coming to have a fair proportion of new missions, mainly in large towns and cities, and calculated to inspire enlarged zeal and interest in the Church at large.
4. Nearly all the Classes in the three Synods are now actively co-

operating with the Board, and apportionments are cheerfully and liberally made for the cause. The meetings of the several Classes last Spring showed a marked improvement in this respect over those of the Spring before.

5. Taken as a whole our Synods, Classes, congregations, and Sunday-schools are in better, harmonious, felt co-operation in carrying forward this good work than they have ever been heretofore.

6. That while the Board had transferred to itself by the Synods and Classes, two years ago, missions costing full \$4,000 above the then current income, we will henceforth be in shape to pay by steps the debt accumulated in consequence.

As last Spring's apportionments by the several Classes have not yet been met *in proportion to the time elapsed* since, by the majority of Classes, the following statement will give a near estimate of the financial wants of the cause of Missions for the *coming classical* year.

Probable actual expenses for that year.....	\$9,500.00
Amt. needed to pay deficit past and present.....	5,500.00
Total.....	<u>\$15,000.00</u>

Of this amount we suggest the following sub-division:

Synod in the U. S.....	\$8,500
Pittsburgh Synod.....	3,200
Synod of the Potomac.	3,300
Total.....	<u>\$15,000</u>

In all we have had *forty-two* missions under our care. Owing to the pressure of the times the work had to be carried forward with unusual care and effort. Special thanks are due our Missionaries for their steady labors amid severe self-denial. The Lord will reward them. May He also direct the Synods to devise and do as may best answer the high interests of the Missionary cause as it confronts us as a Church of Jesus Christ.

Respectfully submitted.

F. K. LEVAN,
Superintendent of Missions.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

I beg leave very respectfully to submit my Second Annual Report, exhibiting the receipts and disbursements of the Board for the year ending Oct. 5th, 1875.

RECEIPTS.

SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

Classis of Philadelphia.....	\$250 53	
(S. Schools, \$40 75)		
Classis of Goshenhoppen.....	1,054 46	
Classis of East Penna.....	712 93	
(S. Schools, \$62 16)		
Classis of Tohickon.....	551 06	
Classis of Lebanon.....	2,120 75	
(S. Schools, \$100 00)		
Classis of Lancaster.....	501 42	
(S. Schools, \$6 00)		
Classis of West Susq.....	420 45	
(S. Schools, \$40 00)		
Classis of East Susq.....	615 73	
(S. Schools, \$12 34)		
	(\$261 25)	
Total from Synod U. S. (including S. S.).....		\$6,227 33

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Classis of Zion.....	\$832 63	
(S. Schools, \$56 16)		
Classis of Maryland.....	529 74	
(S. Schools, \$152 51)		
Classis of Mercersburg.....	50 00	
(S. Schools, \$10 00)		
Classis of Virginia.....	100 00	
	(\$218 67)	
Total from Synod of Potomac (including S. S.).....		1,512 37

SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

Classis of Allegheny.....	\$375 00	
Classis of Clarion.....	679 12	
(S. Schools, \$12 65)		
Classis of St. Paul.....	163 46	
Classis of Somerset.....	301 43	
(S. Schools, \$5 50)		
From Treasurer of Synod.....	406 28	
	(\$18 15)	
Total from Synod of Pittsburgh (including S. S.).....		1,925 29
“ “ the three Synods.....		\$9,664 99
From Loans.....		5,511 07
“ Miscellaneous sources.....		166 67
Total from all sources.....		\$15,342 73

DISBURSEMENTS.

By Balance due Treasurer, as per last account, rendered Oct. 13, 1874.....	\$131 73	
“ Orders of the Board paid during the year.....	10,706 10	
“ Amount paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis.....	267 50	
“ “ “ Loans to Bank.....	4,005 33	
“ Balance due the Board.....	232 07	
		<hr/> \$15,342 73

It will be observed that, although the total contributions from the different Synods are about \$1,500 in excess of last year, yet, in consequence of the large appropriations needed to support our devoted missionaries, heavy loans were necessitated, of which \$500 remain unpaid; and orders amounting to \$4,500 are in the hands of the Treasurer, for the payment of which no provision could be made. The large sum of Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000) is therefore needed, and should be provided at once by the Church, to liquidate the claims of her missionaries.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

HARRISBURG, Pa., Oct. 6, 1875.

I hereby certify that I have audited the account of Wm. H. Seibert by vouchers, and find the same correct, showing a balance in the Treasury of \$232.07.

W. H. H. SNYDER.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions, to whom the foregoing Reports had been referred, submitted their report, which was received, and taken up item by item, amended, and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Missions would respectfully report that four documents were placed into our hands, to wit:

1. The Report of the President of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.

2. The Report of the Superintendent of Home Missions.

3. The Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.

4. A letter from Rev. F. Fox, Missionary at Napa, California.

It is with devout gratitude to the Great Head of the Church, that we learn from the first three mentioned documents, that the arduous work of the Board of Home Missions has been carried forward with great energy and zeal, and with encouraging success. We also have in these reports the gratifying intelligence that the contributions from the different Synods this year are about \$1500.00 in excess of last year; and that this is an evidence that the great work of missions is receiving more of the attention of the pastors and their congregations, and also that there is being awakened in the Church a deeper interest in this blessed cause.

In view of the large and extending field, the earnest cries for help coming up from all directions, and the self-denying devotion of the missionaries themselves,—it behooves this Synod to give this cause greater attention—that her pastors and congregations may be incited to a greater activity, and a more earnest co-operation with the Board, and a more prayerful interest in her blessed God-appointed work.

That the work of the Board of Home Missions may be carried forward efficiently, there will be needed for the current year fifteen thousand dollars. Of this amount fifty-five hundred dollars are now due our faithful missionaries, and should be provided for at once.

In view of the above facts your Committee suggest the following action :

Resolved, That this Synod assume Thirty-three Hundred Dollars as her portion of the Fifteen Thousand Dollars.

Resolved, further, That this amount be apportioned to the different Classes on the basis of membership, due account being given to funds raised for Beneficiary Education, as follows :

Maryland Classis.....	\$1,300 00
Zion's Classis	1,100 00
Mercersburg Classis.....	550 00
Virginia Classis.....	250 00
North Carolina Classis.....	100 00

Making..... \$3,800 00

From the fourth document we learn that the mission at Napa, California, under the care of Rev. F. Fox, is in a prosperous condition.

Respectfully submitted.

S. S. MILLER, *Chairman*.

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The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That this Synod appoint a Committee of three, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, M. H. Sangree, and Elder I. Laucks, to prepare a paper expressing the sense of high appreciation with which this Synod regards the labors in which the Brethren on the Pacific Coast are engaged, and thus convey to them the cordial greetings, sympathy, and love of this Synod in their work, and assure them also of our fervent prayers to God for them and their labor of love.

— — — — —

Terms of Office of Members of the Synod's Board of Missions.

The Synodic Board of Home Missions offered the following report, designating the terms of office of its members, which was received and adopted, viz. :

At a meeting of the Board of Home Missions of the Synod of the Potomac, the Secretary was instructed to report the following action

of the Board determining the terms of office of the several members of the Board. The time of each member expires as follows, viz.:

Elder Henry Wirt,	October 1st,	1875.
Rev. W. K. Zieber,	"	1876.
" E. R. Eschbach,	"	1876.
" W. R. H. Deatrach,	"	1877.
Elder G. S. Griffith,	"	1877.
" W. A. Wilt,	"	1878.
Rev. J. O. Miller,	"	1878.

This Synod has, therefore, to elect one member in the stead of Elder Henry Wirt, whose term has expired.

Respectfully submitted.

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Secretary of Board.*

Elder Henry Wirt was re-elected a member of the Synodic Board of Home Missions for the term of four years, or until October 1st, 1879.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his Annual Report, which was received, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows :

LOUIS MARKELL, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac,
Reformed Church.*

DR.

October 22,	1874.	To balance, cash on hand.....	\$464	25
June 4,	1875.	To cash from North Carolina Classis.....	30	00
September 6,	"	" " Mercersburg " 	112	00
October 6,	"	" " Maryland " 	100	00
" 21,	"	" " Virginia " 	30	00
" 22,	"	" " Zion's Classis, in part.....	50	00
		Making.....	\$786	25

CONTRA, CR.

October 24, 1874.	By cash paid for Minute Book for Board of Educa- tion.....	\$2 10
November 5, "	By cash paid George Gelbach, Treasurer of the Church Extension Fund.....	232 00

January 25, 1875.	By cash paid Reformed Church Publication Board for printing Minutes.....	185 00
" " "	By cash paid Stated Clerk for freight and postage on Minutes, traveling expenses, &c.....	19 00
September 6, "	By cash paid Stated Clerk for freight and expenses on Minutes of General Synod.....	4 00
" " "	By cash paid Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Salary a Stated Clerk.....	75 00
October 21, "	By cash paid Rev. J. A. Peters, expenses of Committee on boundaries of Synods.....	6 00
" 22, "	By balance, cash on hand	263 15
Making.....		\$786 25
Due from Zion's Classis, assessment in part, \$62.00.		

II. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance submitted their report, as follows, which was received and adopted, viz. :

The Committee on Finance would respectfully offer the following report :

They have examined the Treasurer's Report, with its accompanying vouchers, and find it to be correct. A balance of \$263.15 remains in the hands of the Treasurer, and \$62.00 are still due the Synod from Zion's Classis, on assessment of last annual meeting.

In order to provide for the payment of \$166.00 due from this Synod to the General Synod for contingent purposes, the Committee deem it necessary to raise by assessment the sum of \$250.00, in addition to that remaining in the Treasury. This sum the Committee have apportioned among the several Classes, as follows :

Zion's Classis.....	\$75 00
Mercersburg Classis.....	75 00
Maryland "	70 00
Virginia "	20 00
North Carolina "	20 00

Making..... \$260 00

Respectfully submitted.

J. S. KIEFFER, *Chairman.*

The Treasurer was instructed to pay to the Treasurer of the General Synod \$166.00, being the sum assessed upon this Synod for the Contingent Fund of the General Synod.

The Treasurer, it will be seen by reference to his report, paid George Gelbach, Treasurer of the Church Extension Fund, the full amount assessed upon this Synod, toward liquidating the debt resting upon said Board.

The Committee of Conference, appointed at the Synod of Chambersburg, to confer with the Synod of the United States, with instructions to request that Synod to liquidate our share of indebtedness to the former Board of Education by our proper share of the interests derived from the old Beneficiary Fund, and also to bring to the notice of said Synod the great necessity of the two Synods coming to a clear and fixed understanding of the relation which the two Synods sustain to these funds, which were held by the Church in common, prior to the organization of the Synod of the Potomac, and which was continued last year, with instructions to attend to this matter, if possible, without further delay, failed to report, and was discharged.

The Stated Clerk, who had been instructed at the last annual meeting of Synod, to notify the Mercersburg and North Carolina Classes, which had not paid their full quotas of the assessments made by the Synod of the United States at Martinsburg, West Virginia, in 1872, for contingent purposes, that said Synod refuses to exonerate them from the payments of their full assessments, offered the following report, which was received and adopted :

The undersigned respectfully reports, That he attended to the instructions of the Synod thus given, in due time and form.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

From the Treasurer's Report it will be seen that the Classes all paid their assessments for Contingent Fund of Synod, except Zion's Classis, which still owes \$62.00.

A letter was received from the German Maryland Classis, asking to be exonerated from the payment of the assessment upon it for contingent purposes, made at the last annual meeting of the Synod. The letter was read, and, on motion, the German Maryland Classis was released from the payment of \$12.00, the sum assessed upon it last year for Contingent Fund of Synod.

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ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

The Committee on Minutes of Synod, under items 7 and 8, reported the appointment of Revs. S. N. Callender and J. S. Kieffer as a committee to defend this Synod before the General Synod of Fort Wayne in the Rice Appeal and Birely Complaint cases.

The Committee offered the following report, which was received and adopted:

Having been appointed by the Synod of the Potomac at its sessions at Hanover, Pa., together with Rev. S. N. Callender, to defend before the General Synod at Fort Wayne, Ind., the action of the Potomac Synod in two cases of Complaint relating to the Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick, Md., the undersigned would report that in the absence of Rev. S. N. Callender, he was present at said General Synod to discharge the duty assigned them; but that, the Complaints having been withdrawn by those who had charge of them, no defence of the Synod's action was necessary.

Respectfully submitted.

J. SPANGLER KIEFFER.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its Second Annual Report, which was received, amended and adopted as follows:

At the last meeting of the Synod, the subject of preparing "Lesson Papers" was entrusted to this Board; which, however, shortly after the adjournment of Synod, was taken up by the Synod of the United States, and arrangements were made, that at the commencement of the civil year, the Church was favored with "Papers" for the Sunday-school, constructed on the Gospel Lessons for the Church Year, and since then regularly issued every month. That was an era in the history of our Church in relation to our Sunday school work. These papers should commend themselves to all our Reformed Sunday schools from the fact that they are in full accord with the spirit of our Church, enabling the schools to bring before the minds and hearts of both teachers and scholars the great facts in the life of the blessed Redeemer. In the judgment of your Board these papers are well adapted for the more advanced scholars, but not for those younger, and there is a want here which should be met. It would be well for the Church to have prepared a paper on the same subject for each Lord's day, so as to preserve uniformity, which should be specially

designed for the smaller children, and then with these papers for the several Classes and some smaller Catechisms, such as Strassburger's, in connection with the authorized Catechisms of the Church, your Synod, and indeed the Church, would have a complete system for the instruction of the young.

Besides the foregoing the Board has nothing of interest to report. In view of these facts, your Board would suggest to Synod the adoption of the following resolutions, viz.:

Resolved, That the Lesson Papers published by the Reformed Church Publication Board be commended to the Pastors and Sunday-schools under the care of this Synod, and that they be introduced into our Sunday-schools so far as it may be practicable in the judgment of the different pastors.

Resolved, further, That Synod set apart an evening at the next annual meeting for the discussion of topics connected with the Sunday-school cause.

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. SANTEE,	} <i>Sunday-school Board.</i>
G. S. GRIFFITH,	
J. A. PETERS,	
F. M. McKEEHAN,	

Rev. Wm. K. Zieber was elected a member of the Sunday-school Board for the term of five years; and Rev. A. C. Whitmer for three years, the unexpired term of Rev. J. Crawford, who has removed beyond the limits of this Synod.

The Sunday-school meeting was held, according to programme, on Friday evening, and was one of very considerable interest.

A paper by Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., on the subject: "*What shall be the topics for our Sunday-school Lessons?*" was laid before Synod and read. The subject was discussed at considerable length, and the document was then referred to a special committee for consideration, composed of Revs. J. O. Miller, J. W. Santee, S. N. Callender, W. K. Zieber, and Elder L. Markell.

This Committee, at a subsequent session of the Synod, presented the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee to whom was submitted the paper of Dr. L. H. Steiner, read in your hearing, on the subject: "*What shall be the topics for our Sunday-school Lessons?*" report,

That they have carefully considered said paper, and find that it expresses clearly a want that is deeply felt throughout our entire Church, not only by the Sunday-school teachers, but by the ministry

themselves. To teach the Holy Scriptures, this inexhaustible treasury of divine knowledge successfully, after the manner of the fathers we must in our Sunday-schools, as well as pulpits, conform to the spirit of the lessons contained in the Church Year. And what is needed, therefore, in our Sunday-school work, is a manual which shall furnish a clear and intelligible series of topics on this general subject, which in the end should have the endorsement of the Synod as a book suitable and proper to be used in our schools.

We propose, therefore, the following action :

Resolved, 1. That the Sunday-school Board be, and hereby are, instructed either to prepare, or have prepared, a manual, giving a concise, practical and popular account of the general idea and scheme of the Church Year, with specific, detailed statements of the significance of the separate days and seasons, and the logical order of thought contained in them.

2. That the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Pittsburgh Synod be respectfully requested to co-operate in this movement, embraced in the foregoing resolution.

3. That the Corresponding Secretary be directed to transmit a copy of this action to the officers of these respective Synods.

4. That this paper of Dr. Steiner be placed in the hands of the Sunday-school Board of this Synod for their use.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Committee appointed at the Synod of Organization to act with similar Committees from the District Synods of the United States and Pittsburgh, to determine the Synodical Boundaries, presented the following final report, which was received and adopted :

The Committee appointed by the Synod in the United States and the Synod of the Potomac to determine more definitely the boundaries of the Eastern District Synods (the Synod of Pittsburgh included, although it did not appoint a committee to co-operate with the other committees), held a joint meeting in the study of Rev. Dr. A. H. Kremer in Lancaster, Pa., May 13th, 1874, at which were present four members, viz., three of the Committee of the Synod in the United States, and one of the Committee of the Synod of the Potomac. At this meeting no definite action was taken.

On the 19th of August, 1875, another meeting was held in the Lecture Room of the First Reformed Church, Harrisburg, Pa., at which time only three members of the Committees were present, viz.,

the Chairman of the Committee of the Synod in the United States, and two of the Committee of the Synod of the Potomac.

The following report was agreed upon, and afterwards adopted by the two Committees, which we herewith lay before you for your consideration :

The Synod in the United States shall comprise all the territory embraced by the New England States, New Jersey and Delaware; all the territory of Pennsylvania east of the Susquehanna River, as far north as the mouth of the Juniata River, north of the Juniata River westward as far as the Huntingdon County line and east of the eastern boundaries of the Counties of Huntingdon, Clearfield, Cameron and McKean; all the territory of the State of New York east of the eastern boundaries of the Counties of Chemung, Schuyler, Seneca and Wayne to Lake Ontario.

The Synod of the Potomac shall comprise all the territory of Pennsylvania west of the Susquehanna River, and south of the Juniata River westward as far as the Huntingdon County line, with the Counties of Huntingdon, Blair and Bedford on the west; all the territory of Maryland east of the eastern boundary of Allegheny County; all the territory embraced by the States of Virginia, West Virginia east of the Allegheny Mountains, the District of Columbia, and North Carolina, with the States of South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, California and Oregon as missionary ground.

We have complied with the instructions of Synod as given at the last annual meeting, by transmitting a copy of this report to the Synod of Pittsburgh, which convened at Kittanning, Pa., on the 14th instant.

The Committee of the Synod of the Potomac incurred \$6.00 expenses.

Respectfully submitted.

C. H. LEINBACH, *of the Synod in U. S., Chairman.*

J. A. PETERS,

J. P. HASSLER, } *Committee of Synod of Potomac.*

On motion, the Treasurer of Synod was instructed to pay the bill of expenses incurred by the Committee of Synod.

The Committee appointed at the first annual meeting of Synod to confer on the matter of union between the Reformed Church in the United States and the Reformed Church in America, in conjunction with similar committees from the other District Synods, presented the following final report, which was received and adopted :

The Committee appointed by this Synod at Chambersburg, Pa., to confer, in connection with similar committees appointed by the other Synods of our Church in this country, with a Committee of the Reformed Church in America, on the subject of a closer union between that Church and ours, would respectfully report,

That they met agreeably to appointment with the different Committees in Philadelphia, Pa., on Tuesday, November 17th, 1874, in the Race Street Church. The conference lasted for two days, but only reached the result, that we were not prepared for any closer union at this time. The full report of said joint conference was made to the General Synod at Fort Wayne, Indiana, in May last, and is found on pages 25-29 of its published Minutes.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman.*

The Committee appointed at the first annual meeting of Synod to aid in drafting a new Constitution presented the following final report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

Your Committee on Constitution, in conjunction with similar Committees from the other District Synods, reported to the General Synod their views, and the General Synod, upon the adoption of this report, appointed a Committee to draft a Constitution, taking into view the suggestions of the various Committees of the District Synods. Your Committee, therefore, request to be discharged.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Minutes of Classes reported, that the several Classes took favorable action on the subject of harmonizing the charters of congregations with the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States.

The Statistical Tables appended to the Minutes of this meeting will show how far the request of the last, as well as of the first, annual meeting of Synod, has been heeded by the several Classes, to have full and complete statistical reports.

The German Synod in the East having been organized in the early part of the present year, the German Maryland Classis forms a constituent part of said Synod, and consequently is no longer an integral part of this Synod, agreeably to the action of Synod last year, dismissing said Classis.

The recommendation to the District Synod, as reported in item 33 of Committee on Minutes of General Synod, concerning the expenses of delegates to the Synods of the Church, was, on motion, referred to the General Synod's Committee on new Constitution.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk in regard to the publication of the Minutes of the Second Annual Meeting of Synod, and was adopted.

The undersigned, as Stated Clerk of Synod, would respectfully report :

That he had twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the Second Annual Meeting of the Synod published, agreeably to the instructions of Synod, and distributed them according to the directions of the Synod. About four hundred copies were sent to ministers of the other Synods of the Church, at an expense of about nine dollars for postage and wrappers.

The Minutes were published by the Reformed Church Publication Board in Philadelphia, Pa., as ordered, and at a cost of \$185.00, which has been paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to have twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, published, and distributed among those entitled to receive them.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod presented their annual report to Synod, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

The Board of Trustees of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States beg leave to report :

That no special business has commanded their attention during the past year. Agreeably to the provisions of the Charter, the term of service of Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., will expire on the first of January, 1876, whose place will have to be provided for at this meeting of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER,
E. R. ESCHBACH,
LOUIS MARKELL.

Rev. J. O. Miller was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod, in the place of Dr. L. H. Steiner, to serve from January 1st, 1876, to January 1st, 1881.

Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes reported, in reference to the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers, that the several Classes took favorable action with respect to this Society, agreeably to the recommendations of Synod last year, on this subject.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon the members of Synod to meet incidental expenses. The Revs. S. S. Miller and A. G. Dole were appointed to collect said assessment.

This Committee subsequently reported, as follows, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Your Committee appointed to collect an assessment of twenty-five cents from each member to compensate the sexton of the church, and pay for printing the tickets, respectfully report:

That the Committee have called upon every member of Synod, and have received the aggregate amount of twenty-two dollars, which has been handed to the Pastor.

Respectfully submitted.

S. S. MILLER, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Overtures, under item 5, reported a communication from the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., in which they lay before the Synod a statement of the receipts and disbursements of that institution, and appeal to Synod for material aid and sympathy. The communication was read, and the subject then referred to a special Committee, consisting of Revs. W. C. Schæffer, D. N. Dittmar, and Elder I. Laucks, to prepare a suitable minute in regard to the matter.

This Committee, at a subsequent session of Synod, presented their report, which was received, amended, and adopted, as follows, viz.:

Your Committee appointed to prepare a minute on the Report of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., would respectfully submit the following preamble and resolution for adoption:

WHEREAS, An earnest appeal has been made to this Synod by the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf in behalf of said Home, in order to give them the needed funds to provide a home for the fatherless; therefore,

Resolved, That this Synod anew commends said Home to the confidence of our people, and that all the congregations within the bounds of this Synod be earnestly requested to take up a collection,

or send other aid, during the year, for the benefit of said Home, and that the interests of the Home be specially commended to the attention of our Sunday-schools.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. SCHAEFFER, *Chairman.*

The Committee on Overtures, under item 8, reported a transcript of certain action taken by the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its regular meeting held on the 13th of October, 1875, accompanied with a brief statement of the financial condition of the Board.

This paper was read, and then referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. E. E. Higbee, D. Gans, and Elder J. P. Reed.

This Committee reported on the morning of the third day of the sessions, which was received, considered item by item, and adopted as follows, viz.:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The document referred to your Committee, from the Standing Committee on Overtures, has been carefully considered, and the general object aimed to be reached through the request of the Board of Publication of the Synod of the United States, viz.: to unite the three District Synods upon one paper,—to enlarge the present Board of Publication, and have the members thereof elected by the three District Synods respectively,—and to secure an editor in chief to be elected by the three Synods in conjunction, and also three editorial aids selected one from each Synod,—Your Committee most heartily approve; and to facilitate the speedy accomplishment of all this, respectfully suggest the following resolutions to be adopted by this Synod:

Resolved, 1st, That this Synod appoint at once a Committee of seven, consisting of four ministers and three elders, which Committee shall have full power to represent the Potomac Synod in balloting for an Editor in chief, whenever by the final action of the Synod of the United States a convention shall be called for such end.

Resolved, 2d, That this Synod elect by ballot, at this present session an editorial assistant, who shall enter upon his duties, as soon as the arrangements, now proposed, are consummated.

Resolved, 3d, That this Synod elect by ballot at this present session two members of the proposed enlarged Board of Publication, who shall enter upon their office as soon as the way is opened by the change of the Charter of the Board of Publication, as now constituted.

Resolved 4th, That the Synod of the United States be and hereby is respectfully overtured upon notification of the action of this Synod, to inform the Chairman of the Committee of Seven from this Synod

of its action in the premises, and the time and place of the proposed convention of the three Synods for the election of an Editor in chief.

Resolved, 5th, That all this action is conditional upon the acquiescence of the two other Synods in the general plan, and without this is null and void.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman*.

A special Committee was appointed, consisting of Revs. E. R. Eschbach, J. O. Miller, and Elder A. B. Wingerd, to nominate a double number of names for the Committee of Seven to elect the Editor in Chief, six names for the Editorial Assistant, and a double set of names for members of the Board of Publication.

On motion, it was

Resolved, That a majority vote of the whole be required to elect the Committee of Seven to choose the Editor in Chief, to elect the Editorial Assistant, and members of the Board of Publication.

The special Committee on special nominations presented their report, on the morning of the fourth day of the sessions, which was received, amended, and adopted.

On the morning of the third day of the sessions, the Standing Committee on Nominations made their report, which was received and adopted.

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two hundred tickets of these nominations printed for the use of Synod, and the election was made the order of the day for Monday morning's session.

At the appointed time the election was held. Revs. Wm. F. Colliflower, Wm. Goodrich, and Elders Wm. H. Bange and Wm. J. Hensell were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result. This result, so far as the several Boards are concerned, will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of those Boards.

The result in regard to Editorial Assistant, Committee of Seven to choose Editor in Chief, and members of the Board of Publication, is as follows, to wit:

Editorial Assistant.

Rev. E. E. HIGBEE, D. D.

Committee of Seven to choose Editor in Chief.

Rev. E. E. Higbee, D. D.,

" J. O. Miller, D. D.,

" J. W. Santee, D. D.,

" S. N. Callender, D. D.

Elder Henry Wirt,

" Adam B. Wingerd,

" John P. Reed.

Members of Publication Board.

Elder Adam B. Wingerd.

" Goldsboro S. Griffith.

The following preamble and resolutions for the Relief of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church were offered on the last day of the sessions. They were carefully discussed, and then adopted:

WHEREAS, In initiating the new order of combining the three Synods in the publication interests of the Church, it is necessary in order to give to it proper efficiency and success, to secure some ready money as capital with which to start; and, **WHEREAS**, This Synod, at its sessions at Hanover, even when not officially related to the Board of Publication, as now contemplated, resolved to use all proper exertion to aid in this very important work, therefore be it—

Resolved, That the Board of Trustees of this Synod be, and hereby are, authorized to effect a loan of two thousand dollars to be delivered to the new Board as soon as constituted.

Resolved, further, That this Synod put Rev. M. H. Sangree as agent into the field of this Synod, upon terms which the Board of Trustees, in their judgment, may approve, who shall collect funds and pay over to the Board of Trustees of this Synod the principal and interest of the loan, which said Board may make.

Rev. J. H. Krueger of San Francisco, Cal., Rev. T. L. Poulson of Baltimore, Md., Rev. F. Fox of Napa, Cal., Rev. J. Muellhaupt of Stockton, Cal., and Rev. D. Y. Heisler of Mont Alto, Pa., addressed letters to Synod, requesting to be excused for their non-attendance upon the present sessions of Synod. These were read, and they were severally excused.

A Report from the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the United States was received, as item 4 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures, and read, and the Report accepted as an explanation.

A Report from the Secretary of the Board of Visitors of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States was received and read, as item 7 in the Report of the Committee on Overtures, and the item adopted.

No action was deemed necessary on item 6 of Report of Committee on Overtures, which was a complete form on which to report the statistics of pastoral charges to the Classis, and which had been transmitted to the Stated Clerk of Synod by the Stated Clerk of the General Synod.

The Committee on Overtures, under item 10, reported a request in behalf of the friends of the Sabbath in Philadelphia, Pa., asking this Synod to pass some resolutions against the opening of the Centennial

grounds and buildings on the Sabbath, during the coming National Celebration.

The communication was read, and the matter was thereupon referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. W. K. Zieber, S. B. Schaffer, and Elder W. H. Bange, to prepare a suitable response.

This Committee subsequently presented the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The document placed in our hands is a communication from a committee appointed at a meeting of ministers and laymen, held in Philadelphia, Pa., requesting this Synod to take action bearing upon opening on the Lord's day the Centennial grounds and buildings during the approaching National Exposition.

We are not aware of any official action contemplating the opening of said grounds and buildings on the Lord's Day. Nevertheless, we deem it proper for this Synod to unite in all earnest efforts to prevent the desecration of the Christian Sabbath. Therefore, we offer for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Synod the opening of the Centennial grounds and buildings on the Lord's Day for any secular purpose would be a sin against God and an offence to the Christian people of this land.

Resolved further, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to transmit a copy of this action to the above-mentioned committee.

Respectfully submitted.

W. K. ZIEBER, *Chairman*.

The Committee appointed at last annual meeting, who, in conjunction with a similar Committee from the Synod in the United States, was empowered to prepare and publish an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church" with music, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, and the Committee was continued, viz.:

✱ Your Committee on Music for Hymn Book met in conjunction with the Committee of the mother Synod, and both Committees are now busily engaged in the work, and hope to be able to submit a report in full by the next meeting of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman*.

The following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Synod accept the invitation of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States to be present at the Semi-Centennial Celebration to be held in Lancaster, Pa., on November 5th, A. D. 1875, and that we advise as many of our members as possible to be present at said celebration in the name of this Synod, and participate in those services which commemorate the Founding of

that School of the Prophets, in which we have a common inheritance, and which still commands our confidence.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, There are great differences in the various District Synods in point of number of ministers ; and WHEREAS, A uniform method of representation from the Classes composing the different Synods, makes it impossible almost for some District Synods to meet in any other form than in convention, therefore,

Resolved, This Synod do hereby respectfully request the next General Synod to take immediate action so to change the present law of representation, that each District Synod may have power to fix its method of representation within itself, while a uniform method of representation, so far as the General Synod is concerned, be maintained.

ARTICLE XXII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were adopted, to wit :

Resolved, That this Synod hereby expresses its hearty appreciation of the kindness of the Pastor and Congregation of Centenary Reformed Church of the City of Winchester, during its present sessions, and also its gratitude to the other families of Winchester, whose generous hospitality has rendered our stay so pleasant and comfortable among them.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod are hereby returned to the pastor and members of Market Street Methodist Episcopal Church for the use of their church building, in which to hold the religious services of the Synod.

Resolved, That the pastors of the before-mentioned congregations be requested to read the foregoing resolutions from their respective pulpits.

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be expressed to the Baltimore and Ohio, Cumberland Valley, Pennsylvania (Frederick Division), Western Maryland, and Hanover Branch Railroad Companies, for passing the members of Synod over their respective roads at reduced rates of fare.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to communicate this action to the officers of the different Railroad Companies just mentioned.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and none were found absent without permission.

The Minutes were read and adopted, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIII.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be in *Convention*—to be composed of all the ministers within the bounds of Synod, and one elder from each pastoral charge.

Resolved, That we adjourn to meet again in annual sessions in Trinity Reformed Church of York, York County, Pa., on Wednesday, the 18th of October, A. D. 1876, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Adjourned with the repetition of the Apostles' Creed, prayer, the doxology, and the Apostolic Benediction by the President.

P. S. DAVIS, *President*.

Attest, WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Official Copy from the Original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

CLASSIS OF ZION.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconbr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. S. Schol's.	Benev. Contribu's.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
Daniel Ziegler, D. D.,	1 York (German),	450	150	51	29	8	280		4	15	1	100	\$60 00	York, York	
Jacob Sechler,	4 Manheim,	450	175	23	24		415			8	9		198 25	Hanover, York	
F. W. Vandersloot,	3 Mt. Pleasant,	270	150				100							York, York	
Daniel Riegel,	2 Dillsburg,	250	214	14			184			10	2		20 00	Dillsburg, York	
Jacob Ziegler,	Disabled,													York, York	
Jacob O. Miller, D. D.,	1 Trinity Church, York,	335	315	29	24	4	291			5	9	3	311 80	York, York	
Daniel Gring,	5 Shrewsbury,	490	275	70	38		472			20	8	300	91 00	Shrewsbury, York	
William K. Zieher, D. D.,	1 Hanover,	331	275	31	26	13	275			5	6	1	355 00	Hanover, York	
John Ault,	4 Christ Church,	870	475	87	69	12	780	1		8	20	4	385	242 00	Littlestown, Adams
W. R. H. Deatrich,	2 Mechanicsburg,	297	198	21	14	2	286			13	2	148	161 00	Mechanicsburg, Cumberl'd	
Moses Kieffer, D. D.,	2 Gettysburg,	300	150	25	30		275			6	8	1	65 00	Gettysburg, Adams	
Jacob D. Zehring,	5 Emanuel's,	817	385	81	57	8	741			7	34	10	275	1 Codorus, York	
Rinehart R. Smith,	3 Trinity,	281	215	53	9	2	180			3	21	6	146	York, York	
A. J. Heller,	3 Conowago,	475	390	50	49	10	430			1	11	3	200	Arendtsville, Adams	
Oliver L. Ashenfelter,	1 Carlisle,	235	102	37	25	9	180			5	8	1	186	Carlisle, Cumberland	
Aaron Wanner,	Without charge,													York, York	
Aaron Spangler,	5 Abbotstown,	625	570	60	30	14	580			6	8	6	395	York, York	
F. S. Linderman,	4 Zion's,	375	390	25	23	2	300			2	14	6	251	York, York	
Vacant,	3 New Bloomfield,	331	170	14	5	3	310		12	3	3	335	120 00	Blain, Perry	
"	3 Duncannon,	129	81	3	5	1	119			4	3	85	24 07		
Israel S. Weisz,	4 Paradise,	715	525	53	22	7	663			8	35	8	300	Duncannon, Perry	
Reuben Rauhauser,	4 Kretz Creek,	200	250	34	13	2	165			15	4	300	111 42	York, York	
W. H. Herbert,	4 Landisburg,	290	160	17	51	2	230			2	8	4	190	Landisburg, Perry	
Sup. by Ashenfelter and Deatrich,	2 Sulphur Springs,	201	110	9	16	9	168	1		5	2	55	31 00		
George W. Glessner,	1 Newburg,	80	125	14	9	2	80			3	1	100	16 36	Newburg, Cumberland	
Sup. by Rev. A. Wanner,	1 Heidelberg, Ch.,	118	165	5			65			1	1	166			
	1 Mt. Zion Cong.,	70	68	4			40			1		60	38 00		
	4 York Springs,	235	150	6		9	158			5					
	1 St. Andrew's Cong.,	12													
Total, 24.		9232	6053	816	568	115	7767	2	74	254	90	4747	\$4242 62	3	

Licentiate. } James I. Good, York, York County, Pa.
 } George C. Hall, Landisburg, Perry County, Pa.

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	Cong.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schols.	S. S. Sch's.	Benew. Contribs.	Candidates For Ministry.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
John C. Hensell,	3	Rockingham,	209	120	5	7		170			2	3	150	\$60 00		Mt. Crawford, Rock'm Co., Va.
Geo. H. Martin,	4	Woodstock,	400	360	27	16		320		1	7	1	40	80 00		Woodstock, Shenandoah Co
H. St. J. Rinker,	1	Lovettsville,	97	65	2	6		4 69			1	1	40	41 00		Lovettsville, Loudon do
Sam'l N. Callender, D.D.,	2	Mt. Crawford,	190		2	1	2	174			4	1		76 40		Harrisonburg, Rockingham do
Vacant,	1	Shepherdstown,	121	55	15	3		105		3	3	1	85	46 00		Shepherdstown, Jefferson W. Va.
C. G. Fisher,	2	Winchester,	98	72	18	2	12	70			1	5	70	20 00		Winchester, Frederick Va.
Henry Tallheim,	3	Edenburgh,	195	233	16	3	2	183		2		1		25 00		Edenburgh, Shenandoah do
A. J. Bowers,	4	Mill Creek,	175		3			125			2			13 44		Moore's Store, do
Vacant,	1	Martinsburg,	215		8			125			6	1	100	32 86		
Wm. C. B. Shulenberger,		Without charge,														
Vacant,*	2	Middlebrook,	147					140								
Total, 8.			1847	905	97	38	20	1481		7	30	10	445	\$394 70	2	

* Last year's report.

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconbr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communicants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch's.	Beney. Contribu's.	Lowe Contribu'.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
George W. Welker,	3 Guilford,	290	217	17	17		257			2	1		\$32 00	\$8 00		Greensboro, N. C.
Jeremiah Ingold,	Without charge,															Hickory Tavern, do
Thomas Long,	4 Upper Davidson,	180		15	4		150				1		26 00			Salem, do
Jesse W. Cecil,	2 West Rowan,	261		16	6	3	261		3	1	2		25 90			Thomasville, do
John Ingle,	Without charge,															Shaw's Mills, do
John C. Denny,	do															Gold Hill, do
Jacob C. Clapp,	6 Catawba,	312	144	15	9	8	304			11	3	120	172 00		1	Newton, do
Peter M. Trexler,	3 East Rowan,	159	57	5	3	6	159		4							Salisbury, do
M. L. Hedrick,	4 Lower Davidson,	170	79	14	5		168			4					1	Lexington, do
J. A. Foti,	Co-pas with J. C. Clapp,															Newton, do
J. H. Shuford,	4 Grace,	183	79	8	9	7	183		3	4	2					Hickory Tavern, do
Vacant,*	2 East Rowan,	250	179	25	2		240		2	5						Gold Hill, do
Total, 11.		1805	755	115	55	24	1722		12	26	9	120	\$255 90	\$8 00	2	

* Report of last year.

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Schlr's.	Benev. Contrib'rs.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Frederick Fox,*	1 Napa Mission,	22	40	10	8	22	22	10	3	1	45				Napa, Napa County, California.
Julius H. Krueger,	1 San Francisco do	31	32	17	2	4	20	1	1	1	75				San Francisco, do
J. Muellhaupt,*	1 Stockton Charge,	52	72	18	4	48	48		2	1	60				Stockton, do
John Gantenbein,	1 Portland Mission	50	30			45	45								Portland, Oregon.
		155	174	46	9	4	135	11	6	3	180				
		4													

* Report of last year.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.
Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Minist'rs.	Congreg's.	Members.	Unconfr'd Members.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	S. School Scholars.	Students for Holy Ministry.	Contrib's.
Zion, Maryland.	24	76	9,232	6,053	816	568	115	7,707	2	74	284	90	4,747	3	\$4,242 62
Maryland.	23	48	5,889	4,244	461	332	100	5,191	1	66	148	41	3,613	4	1,986 20
Mercedburg.	33	68	6,289	4,268	387	226	89	5,475		75	130	55	3,749	26	5,933 74
Virginia.	8	23	1,347	905	97	38	20	1,481		7	30	10	445	2	394 70
North Carolina.	11	28	1,805	755	90	53	24	1,772		12	26	9	120	2	255 90
San Francisco.	4	4	155	174	45	9	14	135		11	6	3	180		
Total, 6 Classes.	103	247	25,217	16,397	1,896	1,226	352	21,821	3	243	624	208	12,554	37	\$12,833 16
Synod of the U. States, 8 Classes,	183	419	63,655	35,181	5,467	3,874	946	48,982	27	575	2072	484	29,867	50	36,774 10
Synod of Ohio, 13 Classes,	148	341	23,345	11,976	2,095	1,514	843	18,891	240	294	572	246	17,289	16	10,419 27
Synod of the North West, 8 Classes,	108	176	14,011	11,111	1,594	1,113	686	11,577	115	334	426	140	5,614	5	8,907 94
Synod of Pittsburg, 5 Classes,	55	124	9,510	4,763	1,050	683	348	8,302	5	179	301	94	5,640	13	13,462 40
German Synod of the East, 4 Classes,	29	31	6,615	4,223	1,771	569	290	6,088	6	150	503	32	4,355		4,491 83
Grand Total, 6 Synods; 44 Classes,	626	1,338	142,353	86,526	13,873	8,979	3,375	115,661	396	1,765	4,498	1,204	75,619	121	\$86,888 70

NOTE.—The reduction in the aggregates of the Synods of the Potomac, the United States and Pittsburgh, as compared with those of 1874, is explained by the diminution of the four Classes to organize a German Synod of the East, January 12, 1875.

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FOURTH ANNUAL SESSIONS.

NEW YORK
1876

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH,

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

York, Pa., October, A. D., 1876.

PHILADELPHIA, PA:

Reformed Church Publication Board,

No. 907 Arch Street.

1876.

FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE


UNITED STATES,

CONVENED IN CONVENTION,

YORK, PENNA., OCTOBER, 1876.

PHILADELPHIA :

**REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD, No. 907 ARCH STREET.
1876.**



LEMMATA.

- ART. I. OPENING OF SYNOD.
ART. II. MEMBERS PRESENT.
ART. III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.
ART. IV. RULES OF ORDER.
ART. V. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.
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 5. *On Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.*
 6. *On the State of Religion and Statistical Reports.*
 7. *On Missions.*
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ART. VII. RELIGIOUS SERVICES.
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ART. XXIII. ADJOURNMENT.

FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its Annual Sessions convened in Convention, in York, Pa., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-Six. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the Eighteenth, and continued until the evening of the Twenty-third day of the month, inclusive.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod met in Convention on Wednesday evening, October 18th, A. D., 1876, at 7½ o'clock, in Trinity Reformed Church of York, York County, Pa., pursuant to appointment of last Annual Meeting, and was opened with the usual religious services. The President of the previous year, Rev. P. S. Davis, D. D., preached the opening sermon from Luke xvi. 25: "Son, remember."

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers.—Jacob Sechler, Jacob O. Miller, D. D., William K. Zieher, D. D., Jacob D. Zehring, Moses Kieffer, D. D., Rinehart R. Smith, Oliver L. Ashenfelter, Aaron Wanner, Aaron Spangler, Reuben Rauhauser, William H. Herbert, George W. Glessner, James I. Good, William F. Colliflower, John Kretzing, Daniel Gring, Israel S. Weisz, D. D., William R. H. Deatrich, Francis S. Lindeman, Uriah H. Heilman Frederick W. Vandersloot, and Andrew J. Heller.

Elders.—Adam Hamm, Charles A. Shultz, Jacob Ditzler, Jacob Hartman, Henry M. Cocklin, Daniel Hamm, Emanuel Crone, Augustus Waltman, Simon Kell, Henry Spangler, Abraham Tawney, Peter Aulabaugh, Samuel R. Weaver, Henry L. Smith, Peter Stam-
baugh, Joseph Rebert, John W. Smith, John Hefflefinger, and John Roth.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARLBOROUGH.

Ministers.—Edmund R. Eschbach, William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, Abner R. Kremer, Daniel Gans, D. D., Orange E. Lake, David W. Kelley, Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, T. Franklin Hoffmeier, Henry Wissler, J. Mortimer Souder, and P. Allison Long.

Elders.—Louis Markell, Joseph Seibert, Hon. William H. Knode, Joseph Middlekauff, J. Taylor Motter, Jacob Sellers, Ezra Williard, Jacob Hinea, Isaac Brilhart, Goldsboro S. Griffith, Josiah Thomas, Philip Coblentz, David S. Firor, and D. B. Flegeal, M. D.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers.—William M. Deatruck, Isaac G. Brown, Harrison H. W. Hibshman, Albert G. Dole, Jeriah S. Shade, William D. Lefevre, John A. Peters, Ambrose C. Geary, Milton H. Sangree, Henry F. Seiple, David N. Dittmar, David M. Whitmore, William I. Stewart, John M. Schick, Isaac M. Motter, Elias D. Shoemaker, and Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D.

Elders.—Herman Hause, Samuel B. Snively, Barton R. Carnahan, Joseph Isenberg, Philip Snyder, Jacob Law, Joseph H. Griffith, William Bossert, James Smith, Jacob B. Resser, Benj. Franklin Dichtl, Jacob Heyser, and Robert Tussey.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers.—Samuel N. Callender, D. D., Charles G. Fisher, Henry Talhelm, John A. Hoffheins, and John C. Bowman.

Elders.—John F. Crawn, Henry J. Seibert, John M. Nicely, and William H. Bargelt.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

* * * * *

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

* * * * *

NOTE.—A number of members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first and second sessions, and hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would, had they been present at the formation of the roll on the morning of the second day of the sessions. A number of members also obtained leave of absence from day to day. In one instance—from Zion's Classis—the name of an Elder *secundus* appears in the foregoing list of Elders together with his *primarius*.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

From the Synod of the United States.—Revs. J. W. Nevin, D.D., P. S. Davis, D. D., Theodore Appel, D. D., F. K. Levan, Prof. W. E. Krebs, and C. Clever.

From the Pittsburgh Synod.—Revs. J. McConnell and J. F. Wiant.
From the Ohio Synod.—Revs. C. Cort and J. B. Shontz.

From Classis of Zion.—Elders Wm. A. Wilt, Israel Laucks, John J. Vandersloot, Samuel K. Myers, F. C. Polack, John Schaeffer, Conrad Weaver, George Myers, and Charles Young.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES

The presence of the following ministers was announced from day to day, during the sessions of Synod.

Revs. Dr. Lochman, P. Anstadt, and Messrs. Alleman and Gotwalt of the Lutheran Church, and Rev. H. R. Bender of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. D. Gans was chosen *President*.

Rev. W. M. Deatruck is *Stated Clerk*.

Rev. E. R. Raschbach was chosen *Corresponding Secretary*.

Elder Louis Markell was re-elected *Treasurer*.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The Rules of Order, as adopted at the First Annual Meeting, were read by the Stated Clerk. The Synod then defined the bar of the house, as required by the Rules of Order.

The following hours were fixed upon for opening and closing the present sessions of Synod, viz.:

The Morning Sessions to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock.

The Afternoon Sessions to open at 2 and close at 4½ o'clock.

An evening session was held on the last day of the sessions.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the President:

Religious Services.—Revs. J. O. Miller, A. Spangler, W. D. Lefevre, and Elders C. A. Shultz, and J. Seibert.

Minutes of Synod.—Revs. W. M. Deatrick, S. S. Miller, W. K. Zieber, and Elders S. B. Snively, and J. Ditzler.

Overtures.—Revs. J. A. Hoffheins, J. Sechler, I. G. Brown, and Elders J. Sellers and H. Hause.

Minutes of Classes.—Revs. J. T. Rossiter, J. D. Zehring, H. H. W. Hibshman, and Elders G. S. Griffith and J. B. Resser.

Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.—Revs. M. Kieffer, W. Goodrich, G. W. Glesner, and Elders L. Markell, and W. H. Knode.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports.—Revs. N. H. Skyles, A. C. Geary, A. G. Dole, and Elders E. Williard and W. Bossert.

Missions.—Revs. E. R. Eschbach, W. F. Colliflower, C. G. Fisher, and Elders P. Coblentz and A. Tawney.

Finance.—Revs. S. N. Callender, A. Wanner, O. E. Lake, and Elders J. T. Motter and H. M. Cocklin.

Nominations.—Revs. A. R. Kremer, J. A. Peters, J. S. Shade, and Elders J. Middlekauff and J. F. Crown.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Mercersburg, Maryland, Zion, Virginia, North Carolina, and San Francisco were received, and referred to the Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports, which were referred to the Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer was read, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Reports of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions of the three District Synods of the United States, the Potomac, and Pittsburgh were received, severally read, and then referred to the Committee on Missions.

4. Eight other communications were received, and referred to the Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following Religious Services :

1. All the sessions were opened and closed with suitable religious services.

2. The Committee on Religious Services submitted their report, which was received and adopted, as follows, viz. :

The Committee on Religious Services beg leave to report the following appointments for religious services :

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD, IN TRINITY CHURCH.

Thursday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. A. Peters.

Friday Evening.—Synodical Sunday-school Board's services ; conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith, member of the Sunday-school Board. Addresses by Revs. Dr. Kieffer and O. L. Ashenfelter, on the Sunday-school in its relation to the family ; Revs. Dr. Gans and I. G. Brown, on the Relation of our Sunday-school work to the Conversion of our children ; and Revs. A. Wanner and Dr. Callender, on the True Idea of a Sunday-school Literature.

Saturday Evening.—Services preparatory to the Holy Communion. Address by Rev. Dr. Nevin, and Liturgical services by Rev. O. L. Ashenfelter.

Sunday Morning.—Celebration of the Lord's Supper. Sermon by Rev. Dr. Gans, President of Synod. Liturgical services by Revs. J. A. Hoffheins, E. R. Eschbach, W. M. Deatrick, and Pastor, Rev. Dr. Miller.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school services. Addresses by Revs. J. B. Shontz, D. N. Dittmar, J. F. Wiant, and Dr. Kieffer.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. C. Bowman.

Monday Evening.—Missionary Meeting. Services conducted by Rev. E. R. Eschbach. Addresses by Superintendent Levan, Revs. C. Cort, A. R. Kremer, T. F. Hoffmeier, and J. A. Hoffheins.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES.

Zion's Reformed Church.—*Saturday Afternoon.* Sermon by Rev. A. Wanner. *Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. G. W. Glessner.

Heidelberg Reformed Church.—*Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. H. H. W. Hibshman. *Sunday Evening.* Sermon by Rev. A. G. Dole.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. Dr. Kieffer. *Sunday Evening.* Sermon by Rev. Prof. Krebs.

Zion's Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. O. L. Ashenfelter. *Sunday Evening.* Sermon by Rev. J. T. Rossiter.

Union Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. A. Wanner. *Sunday Evening.* Sermon by Rev. C. G. Fisher.

Rev. Dr. Lochman's Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. J. S. Shade. *Sunday Evening.* Sermon by Rev. W. Goodrich.

Presbyterian Church.—*Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. J. A. Peters. *Sunday Evening.* Sermon by Rev. E. R. Eschbach.

Beaver Street Methodist Church.—*Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier. *Sunday Evening.* Sermon by Rev. N. H. Skyles.

Duke Street Methodist Church.—*Sunday Morning.* Sermon by Rev. J. B. Shontz. *Sunday Evening.* Sermon by Rev. J. Kretzing.

Baptist Church.—Sermon by Rev. O. E. Lake.

United Brethren Church.—Sermon by Rev. A. C. Geary.

African Methodist Church.—Sermon by Rev. P. A. Long.

Dallastown Reformed Church.—Sermon by Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich.

Quickle's Reformed Church.—Sermon by Rev. I. G. Brown.

Hoover's Reformed Church.—Sermon by Rev. W. H. Herbert.

Hanover Reformed Church.—Sermon by Rev. Dr. Callender.

Emigsville Chapel.—Sermons by Revs. W. I. Stewart and J. M. Souder.

Salem's Church.—Sermon by Rev. J. M. Schick.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman.*

The religious services, as appointed by the committee, were several-ly observed.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last annual meeting was dispensed with, and the printed Minutes of last annual meeting were referred to the Committee on Minutes of Synod, to report the items of unfinished business claiming the attention of this meeting.

The Committee on Minutes of Synod submitted the following report, which was received, disposed of item by item, amended, and adopted, as follows, viz.:

The Committee, to whom the Minutes of Synod were referred, beg leave to report the following items of unfinished business claiming the attention of the present meeting of Synod, viz.:

Item 1, page 28. An apportionment upon the several Classes for Home Missions.

Item 2, page 28. The appointment of a Committee, of which Rev. J. O. Miller is Chairman, to prepare a paper expressing the high appreciation with which the Synod regards the Missionary labors of the brethren laboring on the Pacific Coast, and send them therewith the cordial greetings, sympathy, and love of the Synod.

Item 3, page 29. The terms of office of the following members of the Board of Missions expired on the first instant, viz.: Revs. W. K. Zieber and E. R. Eschbach.

Item 4, page 33. The present Synod is to set apart an evening, during the present sessions, for the discussion of topics connected with the Sunday-school cause.

Item 5, page 33. The term of office of Rev. J. A. Peters, as a member of the Sunday-school Board, expires with the present meeting of Synod.

Item 6, page 34. Certain resolutions instructing the Sunday-school Board either to prepare, or have prepared, a Manual, giving a concise, practical, and popular account of the general scheme and idea of the Church Year, &c.

Item 7, page 37. The Stated Clerk is instructed to have twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of the last annual sessions of Synod published, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

Item 8, page 37. The term of office of William Heyser as a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod will expire on the 1st of January, 1877.

Item 9, page 40. The election of a committee of seven, of whom Rev. Dr. Higbee is Chairman, to choose the Editor-in-Chief to edit *The Messenger*.

Item 10, page 41. The Synod's Board of Trustees is authorized to effect a loan of two thousand dollars to be delivered to the new Board of Publication as soon as constituted.

Item 11, page 41. Rev. M. H. Sangree is appointed the agent to collect funds and pay them over to the Board of Trustees, to meet the principal and interest of the loan, which the Board may make.

Item 12, page 42. The Committee, which was appointed to prepare and publish, in conjunction with a similar Committee from the Synod of the United States, an edition *with music* of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," was continued, of which Rev. Dr. Higbee is Chairman.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK,
SIMON S. MILLER,
JACOB DITZLER.

Item 1, see Report of Treasurer of Tri-Synodic Board of Missions; action on items 2 and 3, see Article XIV., Missions; on items 4, 5, and 6, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; on item 7, see Article XX., Publication; on items 8, 10 and 11, see Article XV., Finance; and on items 9 and 12, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Committee on Overtures submitted their report, which was received and disposed of item by item, and is as follows:

The Committee on Overtures beg leave to report the following documents:

Item 1. A letter from the Stated Clerk of the German Maryland Classis, containing a resolution expressive of gratitude, that Synod released said Classis from the payment of \$12.00, assessed upon it for Contingent Fund of Synod, two years ago.

Item 2. The Reports of the Board of Trustees and Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., together with a synopsis of the Annual Report of the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees.

Item 3. The Annual Statement of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., as presented by the President of said Board and the Superintendent of the Institution.

Item 4. The Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board, together with the Annual Statement of the Superintendent of the same, and also the new form of Charter adopted by the Board.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. HOFFHEINS,
H. HAUSE,
JACOB SELLERS.

Item 1 was adopted. For the action of Synod on item 2, see Article XIII., Education; on item 3, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; and on item 4, see Article XX., Publication.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes submitted their report, which was received, disposed of item by item, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Minutes of Classes respectfully offer the following as their report, viz.:

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. The Classis of San Francisco appointed Rev. L. C. Edmonds as a member of Standing Committees before his reception as a member of Classis.

2. North Carolina Classis passed certain resolutions and appointed a committee to form a hymn-book of their own.

3. Virginia Classis reports as having received the Licentiate John C. Bowman from the Lancaster Classis, Synod of the United States, instead of from the Mercersburg Classis.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

The San Francisco Classis requests the Board of Home Missions, in behalf of the First Reformed Church of San Francisco, to loan them the sum of *one thousand dollars* to relieve their church property, on

the following conditions, viz.: 1st, That they shall have it without interest; and 2d, That they shall be free from refunding any of the money for a period of five years; then and thereafter to pay annually the sum of \$100, until the whole amount be paid.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

Zion's, Maryland, Mercersburg, and Virginia Classis took favorable action on the following subjects, viz.: Home Missions, Foreign Missions, Beneficiary Education, Increase of the Circulation of *The Messenger*, Orphans' Home, and Statistical Reports.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED, AND DISMISSED.

1. Zion's Classis licensed George P. Hartzell and dismissed him to the West Susquehanna Classis; received Rev. John Kretzing from the East Susquehanna Classis, and Rev. Uriah H. Heilman from the West Susquehanna Classis; and dismissed the licentiate George C. Hall to the East Susquehanna Classis.

2. Maryland Classis licensed Isaac M. Motter and dismissed him to the Mercersburg Classis; received Rev. T. Franklin Hoffmeier from the East Susquehanna Classis, and the licentiate Charles H. Coon from the Philadelphia Classis; dismissed Rev. Charles Cast and the Fourth Reformed (St. John's) Church of Baltimore to the German Maryland Classis, and Revs. Frederick A. Rupley, Wm. Aug. Gring, and Wm. C. Cremer to the Mercersburg Classis.

3. Mercersburg Classis licensed George F. Mull and William I. Stewart; ordained the licentiates William I. Stewart, John M. Schick, and Isaac M. Motter; received Rev. Frederick A. Rupley and the licentiate Isaac M. Motter from the Maryland Classis, the licentiate John M. Schick from the Allegheny Classis, Rev. Carl Gundlach from the Erie Classis, and the licentiate David W. Ebbert from the Philadelphia Classis; and dismissed Rev. Peter S. Davis, D.D., to the Philadelphia Classis, the licentiate John C. Bowman to the Virginia Classis, Revs. Daniel Y. Heisler and Wm. C. Schaeffer to the East Pennsylvania Classis, Rev. Henry Hanhart to the Cincinnati Classis, and Rev. A. C. Geary to the Maryland Classis.

4. Virginia Classis licensed Anderson J. Whitmore; received Rev. John A. Hoffheins from the Allegheny Classis, and the licentiate John C. Bowman from the Mercersburg Classis; ordained the licentiates John C. Bowman and Anderson J. Whitmore; and dismissed Rev. William C. B. Shulenberger to the Westmoreland Classis.

5. North Carolina Classis: No change.

6. San Francisco Classis received Rev. Lewis C. Edmonds from the West Susquehanna Classis.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

1. Zion's Classis will meet in Gettysburg, Adams County, Pa., on Friday, May 25th, 1877, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. O. Miller, D. D., *President*, and Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*.

2. Maryland Classis will meet in Emmittsburg, Frederick County, Md., on Thursday, May 3d, 1877, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. M. L. Shuford, *President*, and Rev. Simon S. Miller, *Stated Clerk*.

3. Mercersburg Classis will meet at Marklesburg, Huntingdon County, Pa., on Wednesday, May 23d, 1877, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. A. G. Dole, *President*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk*.

4. Virginia Classis will meet at Lovettsville, Loudon County, Va., on Thursday, May 17th, 1877, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. U. G. Fisher, *President*, and Rev. Henry St. John Rinker, *Stated Clerk*.

5. North Carolina Classis will meet in Newton, Catawba County, N. C., on Thursday, May 24th, 1877, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Rev. J. A. Foil, *President*, and Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*.

6. San Francisco Classis will meet in Stockton, California, on Friday, June 1st, 1877, at 8 o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. H. Krueger, *President*, and Rev. F. Fox, *Stated Clerk*.

Respectfully submit'ed.

J. T. ROSSITER,	} Committee.
H. H. W. HIBSHMAN,	
J. D. ZEHRING,	
G. S. GRIFFITH,	
J. B. RESSER,	

The items were severally adopted, with the exception of item 2 under *Irregularities*, for Synod's action on which see Article XIX., Church Government; and item under *Requests and Recommendations*, for the action on which see Article XIV., Missions.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND ORDINATION.

The Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination offered the following report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

The Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination beg leave respectfully to report, that no applicants for licensure have been referred to them; consequently, the Committee had nothing to do.

Respectfully submitted.

M. KIEFFER, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports submitted their report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

Reverend Fathers and Brethren.—It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto Thee, Lord God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The reports on the State of Religion, from the several Classes composing this Synod, come to us, expressing, first of all, hearty thanks to God for health and strength vouchsafed to His servants during the year, and state that the work of the pastors, within our bounds, has been permitted to go forward without serious interruption, for which it is meet and right to praise the Lord.

A marked and pleasing feature of these Classical Reports, is the unanimity in which they express themselves, as to the growing appreciation, on the part of the members of our Communion, of the Church and all her means of grace, as a divine institution.

It certainly indicates progress in the right direction, when the members give evidence of the fact, that they more and more clearly realize that the Church, which is the mother of us all, is not the project of man, and thus of the world, but she is that divine economy of grace, which comes to us from the heavenly world.

Our Divine Lord and Master gathers the fallen world into the Church, which is His mystical body, and by and through her divinely appointed means breathes into all His own glorious and undying life.

Our Christian life properly begins when our relation to the old Adam is broken off, and we are livingly joined to the new Adam; when we are taken out of the dark world of sin, and are transplanted into the kingdom of light, which is the kingdom of God's own dear Son.

This is the first step toward our salvation, and which we may appropriately call the *"planting season"*. In the natural world we sow, we reap, we gather into barns. We must sow before we can reap. So it is in the spiritual world or kingdom of grace. There is a planting season, a nurturing and growing season, and an ingathering season. The planting takes place in our infancy, at the Baptismal Font. We are said to be *baptized into Christ*. As the seed must be buried in the soil, before it can sprout and grow, so we must be buried with Christ in baptism. This being the fact, it is encouraging to learn from the several Classical Reports that the parents within our Communion are coming to a clearer consciousness, in regard to this cardinal truth, and hence come promptly with their tender offspring and dedicate them to the service of the Triune God. During the Synodical year just closed, *one thousand nine hundred and fifty-one* have been brought into the Church—planted in the house of the Lord, and dedicated to the ser-

vice and work of the great Master. We recognize them as members of the Church—lambs of Christ's flock—no longer belonging to the kingdom of this world, but to the kingdom of Christ, and therefore the special objects of His love and favor.

After the planting comes the *nurtrng and training season*. When the corn which the farmer planted in the ground is up, he must then industriously use the plough and harrow to kill the weeds, which are indigenous to the soil, or they will grow up and destroy the prospects for a harvest. So in the spiritual world, the little ones, planted in the vineyard of the Lord, must be nurtured and properly trained. Much depends upon the faithfulness with which the Church discharges her duty to the lambs of the flock. The Church has to do, not only with adult life, but also with child life. We do not, we dare not, ignore the infant membership of the Church.

And we are glad to report that, within our Communion, increased care and attention is being manifested in the moral and religious training of the young. This is seen, first, in the regular and faithful catechizing of the children of the Church by the pastors. This custom of sending the lambs of Christ's flock to the minister at the proper age, to be instructed in the doctrines and duties of our holy religion, is not new, but old; it comes down to us hoary with age. It is old, true, and tried. Our people show that they have full faith in this time-honored and well-tried custom.

To be sure, it is not so quick in its work, as some of the modern schemes and appliances. It is not accomplished in a day, nor a week; but if it is slow in its working, it is sure in its results. It is gratifying to learn that the catechetical instruction has received more than usual attention during the past year. And as the result we have a large increase in the confirmed membership. As compared with the confirmations of last year, there is an excess of four hundred and three. Another evidence that the educational system is gaining in strength among our people, is the increased attention given to the Sunday-school cause. There was a time when this good work received little or no attention in our annual Synodical and Classical meetings; but now this important auxiliary of the Church comes in for a good share of the time and attention of our meetings. The earnest discussions, had in our annual sessions, on the various topics relating to the Sunday-school work, show that we are coming to a consciousness of our duty in this direction. This is a favorable sign of a true and growing prosperity. We have now within the bounds of this Synod 207 Sunday-schools, and 13,680 scholars. A number of these schools are—as in fact all should be—under the care and supervision of the consistories of the congregations. The result of the educational policy of our Church is the admission to full membership in the Church of persons who are rooted and grounded in the Apostolic faith—of persons who are settled and established—not to be turned from their proper moorings by every passing wind and wave of popular movements.

It is refreshing to hear these Classical reports speak in this wise :

"The Holy Communion has perhaps never been more highly appreciated, or more largely attended within our bounds, than it was during the past year." It is no uncertain sign, when our people manifest a growing appreciation of this most central service of our whole Christian worship. As a result we may look for growth in spiritual strength—in faith, hope, love, and all the graces of the Spirit. In this central service we have communicated unto us the crucified Body and shed Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, as the true meat and drink of our souls. "He that eateth Me, even He shall live by Me." Corresponding to this growth of the inner life, we may, reasonably, look for increased faithfulness and zeal in general Church work, in the support of our institutions of learning, and in enlarged contributions for the cause of missions and all the various benevolent objects of our Church. There is, indeed, much room for improvement among our people in the way of devising liberal things for the Lord. The amount contributed annually for benevolent purposes is certainly not commensurate with our numbers and ability.

It is to be hoped that our people will soon realize the importance of consecrating unto the Lord, not only their bodies and souls, but also *a due portion of their possessions*. Following the nurturing and training season, which continues through the whole period of Christian life and Christian activity, and as the crowning work of the whole, we have the *ingathering season*. After the planting and maturing in the natural world, comes the reaping and gathering into barns. So in the spiritual world, after the season of earnest toiling and severe conflict, comes the season of quiet and repose, when all labor is at an end, and the good Master says, "It is enough; come up higher."

According to the statistical table, under the column of deaths, 665 have departed this life—665 have been gathered into the garner of eternal rest. The messenger sent to do this work comes alike to young and old—to pastors, elders, deacons, and people. But our faith is, that we believe in the resurrection of the body, and the life of the world to come.

Three from the ranks of the ministry, belonging to this Synod, departed this life during the past year.

Rev. Henry Heckerman, of Bedford, Pa., fell peacefully asleep in Jesus, on the 5th day of April, 1876. He served his Church long and well. His labors in the ministry did not cease until he had borne the heat and burden of the day.

Rev. Daniel Ziegler, D. D., departed this life on the 23d day of May, 1876. This aged and much respected father labored successfully for almost half a century in the work of the ministry. He has gone to his reward.

Rev. Stephen K. Kremer, died on the 16th day of August, 1876. He fell at his post, in the morning of life, much beloved by his people, and in the midst of increasing usefulness.

These brethren were greatly esteemed and highly respected for their piety, their talents, their earnest zeal and efficient work in the

ministry. They now rest from their labors, and their works do follow them.

"So Jesus slept; God's dying Son
Passed through the grave, and *bless'd the bed.*"

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Respectfully submitted.

N. H. SKYLES, *Chairman.*

(For Statistical Tables see Appendix.)

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Education made its annual report, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

To the Synod of the Potomac:—

The Board of Education, elected by the Synod of Winchester, October 25th, 1875, organized the same day, by electing Rev. P. S. Davis, *President*; Rev. J. W. Santee, *Secretary*; and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Treasurer*.

Rev. Dr. Davis having been called by the united action of the Synod of the United States, Pittsburgh, and the Potomac, to the Editorship-in-Chief of *The Messenger* shortly after the last annual meeting, and having removed beyond the limits of the Synod, the duty of preparing this Report was, upon consultation, entrusted to the Treasurer of the Board.

The Board unfortunately failed to hold a meeting at Mercersburg, Pa., at the close of the Post Graduate year in Mercersburg College, May 16th, 1876, for the lack of a quorum. This is to be regretted. The meeting was duly called, several weeks before that time, by the Secretary of the Board, through the medium of *The Messenger*; but when the time came, only two members were to be found in the town of Mercersburg. Consequently the instructions of the Synod to the Board to attend the examinations of the students receiving Theological instruction at Mercersburg College has not been obeyed, for the past Synodical year, as designed by the Synod, except in so far as one member of the Board was present at said examinations. This failure of duty, owing to peculiar circumstances, is regretted by your Board. It is believed, however, that a like occurrence, in the future, can be easily avoided, by the Board appointing an Executive Committee, composed of those members of the Board who reside at or most convenient to Mercersburg, who shall not only discharge the duty en-

joined by the Synod to attend the examinations of such students as may receive theological instruction at Mercersburg College, but likewise the public examinations also of all the Beneficiary Students under the care of the Board, who receive literary and moral training at said College; and, in this manner, bring the beneficiaries into closer relationship with the Synod, and extend over them our sheltering ægis.

Mercersburg Classis, at its last annual meeting, formally placed all its beneficiary students under the direction and care of the Synod's Board of Education.

During the past year the Board has had under its immediate care the following beneficiaries, to whom appropriations have been made by the respective Classes to which they belong, viz.:

Mercersburg Classis: William I. Stewart, Anderson J. Whitmore, Henry S. Garner, Isaac N. Peightel, Samuel C. Long, W. Wilberforce Deatrick, Samuel H. Eisenberg, Albert A. Black, Daniel H. Leader, George B. Resser, and Jonathan W. Miller.

Maryland Classis: Marion L. Firor, and Louis F. Zinkhan.

Virginia Classis: George A. Whitmore and Samuel L. Whitmore.

Besides those whose names have just been mentioned, as receiving beneficiary assistance, the following students have been pursuing their theological studies under the care and direction of the several Classes, comprising the Synod: George M. Zacharias, George P. Hartze'l, and Henry E. Cook, at Lancaster, Pa.; and George F. Mull, Isaac M. Motter, and John North, at Mercersburg, Pa.

Zion's and North Carolina Classes have neither operated through your Board, nor reported to it, and hence we cannot state what amount of funds has been contributed by them for this worthy cause, or what number of beneficiary students they may support.

Messrs. G. F. Mull, W. I. Stewart, I. M. Motter, J. M. Schick and A. J. Whitmore, having completed the full three years' Course of theological instruction in the Post-Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, were severally licensed, last May, to preach the Gospel: Messrs. Mull and Stewart by the Mercersburg Classis, Mr. Motter by the Maryland Classis, Mr. Whitmore by the Virginia Classis, and Mr. Schick by the Allegheny Classis. All these young brethren, excepting Mr. Mull who is in Germany engaged in still further prosecuting his studies, have been ordained to the Gospel Ministry, and are actively engaged in the pastoral work within the bounds of this Synod.

At the present time, G. M. Zacharias, L. F. Zinkhan, H. S. Garner, and H. E. Cook are pursuing their theological studies in connection with the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., Messrs. B. R. Carnahan, J. North, S. T. Wagner, I. N. Peightel, G. A. Whitmore, S. C. Long, W. W. Deatrick, S. H. Eisenberg, M. L. Firor, and D. H. Leader are now receiving theological instruction in the Post-Graduate Course, connected with Mercersburg College, agreeably to the action of the Synod at Chambersburg.

The Treasurer acknowledges the receipt of the following sums,

during the past Synodical year, which have been duly paid to the beneficiaries entitled to receive aid, the vouchers for which he holds, leaving a balance due the Treasurer of \$15.03.

The different pastoral charges are herein credited with the amounts contributed for Beneficiary Education, the aggregate paid by each separate charge, during the year, being given, omitting items and dates of payments, viz.:

Mercersburg Classis.

Bedford Charge.....	\$125.00
Waterstreet "	120.59
Chambersburg "	115.00
Mercersburg "	110.00
Greencastle "	90.00
Everett "	75.00
Altoona "	75.00
St. Clairsville "	71.90
Greenfield "	71.84
Mont Alto "	64.46
Friend's Cove "	61.95
College Church.....	40.00
Woodcock Valley Charge.....	35.70
Woodbury "	27.55
London & St. Thomas Charge.....	22.60
Martinsburg Charge.....	20.25
Grindstonehill "	15.00
St. John's Church of Chambersburg.....	10.00
McConnellsburg Charge.....	8.40
Orbisonia Mission.....	8.00
Middleburg Church.....	5.48
Sulphur Springs Charge.....	2.15
Amount.....	<hr/> \$1,175.87

Maryland Classis.

Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick.....	\$85.80
Boonsboro Charge.....	80.00
Third Reformed Church of Baltimore.....	27.23
Cavetown Charge.....	22.40
First Reformed Church of Baltimore.....	22.00
Westminster Charge.....	22.00
Glade Charge.....	22.00
Emmettsburg Charge.....	20.00
Jefferson "	18.00
Manchester "	15.00
Clear Spring "	13.75
Hagerstown "	13.00
Burkittsville "	12.00
Mount Pleasant "	11.50
Mount Moriah "	10.00
St. Stephen's Church.....	3.20
Amount.....	<hr/> \$347.88

Virginia Classis.

Cash per Treasurer..... \$342.23.

Recapitulation.

Mercersburg Classis.....	\$1175.87
Maryland "	347.88
Virginia "	342.23
Mrs. M. E. S. Hood, Frederick, Md.....	200.00
Total.....	\$2065.98

We certify that we have audited the account of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same correct, showing a balance due him at this time of \$15.03.

J. HASSLER,
M. H. SANGREE.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 17, 1876.

The Board gratefully acknowledges the liberal and generous donation, "for needy students at Mercersburg College," of Two Hundred Dollars, by Mrs. Margaret E. S. Hood, a member of the Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick City, Md. May the great Head of the Church graciously reward her for her very opportune gift, and raise up many to imitate her worthy example, who may devise liberal things for Christian Education within our Synodical jurisdiction.

It will be necessary, during the present sessions of Synod, to elect a member of the Board to fill the unexpired term of Rev. Dr. Davis. The Board suggests the election of a person resident in Mercersburg.

Respectfully submitted by

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Appendix.

On motion, the following paper was permitted to be appended to the foregoing Report, viz.:

The Officers of the Classes of Zion beg leave to submit the following statement before Synod in reference to its educational work. Two beneficiaries were under its care, during the first half of the Synodical year, now ending; the one in Mercersburg College, and the other in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

Mr. Horatio G. Comfort, who was in Mercersburg College, was compelled to abandon his studies in May last, for reasons over which he had no control. It is his intention, however, to resume his studies again as soon as the causes are removed, which compelled him to abandon them.

Mr. George P. Hartzell was licensed to preach the Gospel at the last annual meeting of Classis, and is now in the active duties of his calling.

At a special meeting of Classis, held in this Chapel yesterday,

Mr. H. A. Trostle was taken under the care of this Classis as a Beneficiary Student, providing he can comply with the rules of Classis in regard to the execution of the Bond.

During the year the Classis raised for the work of Education the sum of Four Hundred Dollars.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *President*,

W. R. H. DEATRICH, *Stated Clerk*.

At the election for members of the different Boards, held during Saturday Afternoon's Session, Rev. I. G. Brown of Mercersburg was duly elected a member of the Board of Education for two years,—the unexpired term of Rev. Dr. Davis.

The reports of the Board of Trustees and Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., together with a synopsis of the Report of the Treasurer of said Seminary, as reported under item 2 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Revs. S. N. Callender, A. Wanner, and Elder L. Markell. This Committee subsequently reported as follows, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Your Committee to whom were referred the Reports from the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., beg leave to report.

Your Committee find the documents placed in their hands to consist of abstracts of the Reports of the Board of Trustees and the Board of Visitors together with a synopsis of the Report of the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. The Report of the Board of Trustees sets forth the receipts and expenditures for the current year as follows, to wit—

Receipts.....	\$4166.20
Expenditures.....	5508.70

leaving a deficiency of \$1342.40, to cover which collectable interest to the amount of about \$1350.00 fell due the 1st of October.

The general finances of the Institution are as follows:

Endowment Fund.....	\$64,277.42
Building “	11,480.40
Pittsburgh Synod Professorship Fund.....	1,501.59
Library Fund.....	1,862.50
Smaltz “	5,000.00

The report of the Board of Visitors sets forth that there were in attendance upon the Seminary, during the past year, thirty-two students—11 in the Junior Class, 10 in the Middle Class, and 11 in the Senior Class. The Senior Class, having completed their studies and sustained a satisfactory examination, were dismissed with the usual recommendation for licensure.

The year was one of peace and prosperity in the Seminary, and of encouraging diligence and faithfulness on the part of the students. The Professors, rendering full satisfaction to the church in their faithful labors, contribute thus most efficiently to the meeting of the pressing want for a continuous increase to the ranks of the ministry.

The Board of Visitors refers to the attention of the several Synods, the question which has been raised in different quarters, as to the propriety of having the several Professors in the Seminary hold their ecclesiastical connection with the different Synods represented in the Board of Visitors, instead of all belonging to the same Classis and Synod, as they now do.

Your Committee are of the opinion, that inasmuch as all precedent legislation touching this general question is adverse to such an arrangement, and inasmuch further as a disturbance of this precedent would open the door to great irregularity, and impair the jurisdictions of the several Classes and Synods, it would be best for them to remain in connection with the Classis and Synod within the bounds of which their office places them.

Respectfully submitted.

S. N. CALLENDER,	} Committee.
A. WANNER,	
LOUIS MARKELL,	

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions, were laid before Synod and read, and then referred to the Committee on Missions. These reports are as follows, viz. :

I. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the U. S., The Pittsburgh Synod, and the Synod of the Potomac.

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN:—The articles of agreement between the three Synods, combining to form “an organic union in the work of Missions,” say: “The Superintendent shall present an annual report to each of the District Synods.” In accordance with this provision I herewith offer my official Report for the Synodical year ending October 1st, 1876. And in the first place let me call your attention to our different missions and their respective condition.

SYNOD IN THE UNITED STATES.

Within the bounds of this Synod, the Board has had *seventeen* missions under its care during the year.

Catasauqua, Pa.—Rev. A. B. Koplin, pastor. East Pennsylvania Classis has assumed to pay the one-half of the debt resting on the property of this mission, which is a step forward in its interest. It is steadily growing in membership. Yet it is felt by both the pastor and the Classis, as well as by myself, that connection with some other congregation must be made, in order to enable it to become self-supporting at an early day. It is hoped this may be done. App. \$700, till July 1st, since then \$600. German and English.

Allentown, Pa.—Salem, Rev. A. J. G. Dubbs, pastor. This Mission has been very vigorously pushed forward by its original projectors. During the year the present pastor was induced to take charge of it, and that fact at once insured its success. The membership has grown rapidly; a large new church is almost completed; and a wide door is open for future usefulness in the Christian work. From the first, the congregation became self-supporting. It deserves praise for the noble, self-reliant stand it has taken. German and English.

Allentown, Pa.—Christ Church, Rev. J. Fritzinger, pastor. Organized last July. Began with fifty-seven confirmed members, and a large Sunday-school. Its location in East Allentown, is in the midst of a large population, not near any of our other churches. So far, its progress and prospects have been very encouraging. Appropriation from July 1st, \$300. German.

Easton, Pa.—Grace, Rev. D. Y. Heisler, pastor. This has been quite a flourishing mission from the beginning. It was pushed forward for about one year by the pastors in the place, and myself. Last June, the present pastor was settled there. He reports favorably. The people are liberal in proportion to their numbers, a membership of forty, paying a salary of \$600. Appropriation \$200. English and German.

Reading, Pa.—St. John's, Rev. J. W. Steinmetz, pastor. Growing rapidly in numbers and influence. The congregation is building a large church and parsonage. Appropriation old, \$400; new, \$300. German and English.

Reading, Pa.—Christ Church, Vacant since last November. Its future uncertain. German.

- Shenandoah City, Pa.*—Rev. E. D. Miller, pastor. Doing well, though affected by the difficulties peculiar to the coal regions. Scarcity of funds has retarded the completion of the new church. The pastor is in good hopes, however. Appropriation \$200. German and English.
- Philadelphia, Pa.*—*St. John's*, Rev. J. G. Noss, pastor. Has been holding its own as to membership; possibly gained somewhat; and has considerably improved its property. Its field is large, but rather difficult to utilize. The membership is earnest and united. Appropriation old, \$400; new, \$300. English.
- Philadelphia, Pa.*—*St. Stephen's*, Rev. A. Romich, pastor. From October to April, the appropriation was at the rate of \$200 a year. At that time the congregation passed over to the German Philadelphia Classis; and at the same time off our Board.
- Wyoming, Del.*—*St. John's*, Rev. W. F. Lichliter, pastor, until Sept. 1st. Vacant since, though about obtaining a pastor again. Progress has been made during the year. The membership numbers fifty-seven; a goodly gain over last year's report. The location of this mission gives it special importance for the future of the Reformed Church in the State of Delaware. App. \$300. English.
- Harrisburgh, Pa.*—*Second church*, Rev. G. W. Snyder, pastor. A long step forward has been taken by this congregation. It has purchased a large new church-building in an excellent location. By the sale of the old property it expects to meet the cost of the new. The congregation and Sunday-school are in good condition. App. \$300. English.
- Harrisburg, Pa.*—*Zwingli*, Rev. M. Noll, pastor. This congregation has been engaged, during the summer, in finishing the upper or main audience room of its church. It has just been dedicated. The interest does not seem to have material at hand to grow fast, but it has nevertheless, had a quiet, healthy progress. App. \$225. German.
- Columbia, Pa.*—Rev. Conrad Clever, pastor. I repeat simply what I said a year ago: This mission is "prosperous." App. old, \$150; new, \$100. English.
- Hazleton Pa.*—*Emanuel's*. Lately served by the Rev. I. E. Graeff. Now vacant. The debt on this interest, seems to be the sole obstacle in the way of its becoming self-supporting at once. The matter is in the hands of a Committee of Classis. App. \$100. German and English.
- Overton, Pa.*—Served by Rev. J. H. Schlappig, until August. Vacant since. At my suggestion a committee has been appointed by East Susquehanna Classis with power to connect other congregations with this charge, and so make it self-sustaining. What can be done is not clear yet. App. \$75. German and English.

- Liverpool, Pa.*—Rev. W. Donat, pastor. By request of West Susquehanna Classis, the appropriation has been continued for another year, from June, 1876, when the field is to be declared self-sustaining. App. \$80. German and English.
- Lock Haven, Pa.*—*Church of the Resurrection.* Rev. F. F. Christine, pastor. This congregation was served for one year by Rev. J. W. Pontius. In that time much work was done. The communicant membership was increased from twenty to forty-three. A flourishing Sunday-school was established; and full forty of its children are baptized members of the Church. Ill health led the pastor to resign in June. Since July 1st, the congregation has been in charge of Rev. F. F. Christine, who was lately ordained and installed by the Classis. He reports favorably. App. old, \$500; since July \$400. English.

2. PITTSBURGH SYNOD.

Within the bounds of this Synod, the Board has had *twelve* missions, for the whole or part of the year, under its care.

- Kittanning, Pa.*—Rev. D. S. Dieffenbacher, pastor. Has continued, as before, prosperous. Presumably will be self-supporting within the coming year. App., old, \$225; since June, 1876, only \$165. English.
- Titusville, Pa.*—The fortunes of this congregation have been various; so much so as to make it difficult for the Board to know what to do in its case. For some time past, it has been supplied under the supervision of a Committee of St. Paul's Classis. The Executive Council has passed a resolution authorizing the said Classis to pay the supply, Rev. C. A. Limberg, at the rate of \$150 a year, and deduct the same from its apportionment for missions. With better times in the oil regions, it is hoped this congregation will become permanently established, and save for itself its beautiful and valuable property. German.
- Meadville, Pa.*—Rev. D. D. Leberman, pastor. Prosperous. Became self-supporting in the spring. Former app. \$150. German and English.
- Cumberland, Md.*—Rev. F. R. Schwedes, pastor. This interest has come to a healthy and steady growth. The pastor serves also in connection with it a congregation, established by him in Keyser City. It has cost much labor and means to bring the Reformed Church to a solid basis in Cumberland, but our perseverance is beginning to bring its reward. Our people there propose to purchase a suitable burying-ground, a matter of special importance, as experience shows, to a German congregation. App, old, \$100; new, \$350. German.

Scottdale, Pa.—Until September, under the pastoral care of Rev. W. C. B. Shulenberger. Vacant since, but expecting to have the services of a pastor shortly again in the person of Rev. S. Z. Beam, of Michigan. Has fifty-one confirmed members; one hundred Sunday-school scholars. Has as yet more debt on its property than is desirable. This interest has been growing from the start. App. \$300 until September; since then \$250. English.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—*Trinity*, Rev. T. F. Stauffer, pastor. Growing, though slowly during the year. Much affected by the hard times. It has much in its favor for the future. Confirmed members seventy; unconfirmed sixty-two; Sunday-school scholars eighty-five. App. old, \$300; new, \$250. English.

Zion's, Rev. H. D. Darbaker, pastor. This brother became the successor of Rev. Dr. Russell, last January. He has labored with reasonable success so far. The membership is small, thirty-four; but has zeal, a good, well located property, and no heavy debt. App. old, \$400; new, \$300. English.

I may here remark, that the movement spoken of last year, to unite Trinity and Zion's under one pastor, was not found feasible. Unforeseen difficulties obstructed the effort.

St. Paul's, Rev. J. W. Ebbinghaus, pastor. The report from this congregation speaks of progress upon the whole. The membership has grown. Its financial affairs are, however, not all that could be desired. App. \$220. German.

St. James, Rev. C. Boerchers, pastor. This congregation has improved very much in Christian life and spirit. Its membership has risen to eighty-nine confirmed, and fifty-eight unconfirmed. App. \$200. German.

St. Luke's, Vacant, but supplied during the year by Rev. J. W. Ebbinghaus of St. Paul's Church. German.

Triadelphia, W. Va.—Rev. Louis Müller, pastor. Owing to the organization of a congregation in Wheeling, last autumn, by its pastor, there has not been any appropriation extended since October, 1875. Brother Müller has done a good work, especially in Wheeling. German.

Helvetia, W. Va.—Formerly under the pastoral care of Rev. A. Kern. Supported, by agreement, during the past year by the St. John's Classis, Ohio Synod, from the bounds of which many of the members had come. German.

The congregations of the five last named missions, viz.: St. Paul's, St. James' and St. Luke's, Pittsburgh, and Triadelphia and Helvetia, W. Virginia, belong to the German Classis of West Pennsylvania and hence, by request, are to be transferred to the Board of Missions of the German Eastern Synod, to whose jurisdiction said Classis

now belongs. Our Executive Council has consented to, and authorized this transfer, to take effect October the 1st, 1876.

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC

Within the bounds of this Synod there are *eight* Missions under the care of our Board.

Duncannon, Pa.—Vacant for a whole year. Since September, under the pastoral care of Rev. U. H. Heilman. While vacant the Mission was supplied with service, mainly by students from the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. The new pastor finds the people active, and feels greatly encouraged. App. \$300. English and German

Winchester, Va.—Rev. C. G. Fisher, pastor. This charge is still making progress. Its most immediate need would seem to be a parsonage. That is of first account, in the circumstances, to give it an established character. App., old, \$350; new, \$300. English.

Orbisonia, Pa.—Rev. J. M. Schick, pastor. A mission along the eastern branch of the Broad Top Rail-road, in Huntingdon County. The pastor, who took charge July 1st, reports it as promising well. It includes several towns. App. \$200. English and German.

Chambersburg, Pa.—*St. John's*, Rev. Carl Gundlach, pastor. This congregation was for years under the care of the late Rev. Dr. Schneck. It has not much material to hand out of which to grow. App. \$100. German.

PACIFIC COAST MISSIONS.

San Francisco, Cal.—Rev. J. H. Krueger, pastor. I may here repeat my language of last year: "No particular change during the year. Holds fairly its own." San Francisco is a difficult field for church work, requiring ability, skill and patience, along with great devotion on the part of a pastor, if he would succeed. The brother in charge seems to labor hard. App. \$300. German.

Napa, Cal.—Rev. F. Fox, pastor. What has been said of San Francisco holds equally true of Napa. Our Missionary there has been a skillful pioneer. He continues to look to the extension of our work in the Golden State. App. \$440. English and German.

Portland, Oregon.—Rev. J. Gantenbein, pastor. This Mission is getting to have a fixed character, and a well-understood position in the community. Its greatest want is a chapel of its own, for obtaining which there seems to be good

prospect. The pastor has also visited other places in Oregon with the view of opening the way for the establishment of Reformed congregations. App., old, \$600; new, \$500 German.

Salem, Oregon.—Rev. J. Muellhaupt, pastor. The Missionary has just begun his work in this place, the capital of the State, and there is nothing very definite as yet to report. He also preaches in Albany occasionally, and may visit settlements in the country. He is a wise, persevering Missionary, and is like to do good service. German.

Besides these congregations, there is one at Stockton, Cal., under the pastoral care of Rev. L. C. Edmonds, which, however, supports its own minister, and is not a mission. It will thus be seen that the Reformed Church has laid a fair foundation along the Pacific Coast.

OTHER MISSIONS.

A number of Missions have all along been, for a longer or shorter time, under the care of the Superintendent, and a Committee of the Classes in which they severally are located, before they came under the full control of the Board by the appointment of a Missionary. We have been steadily saving money in this way. Of such missions the following are on hand at the present time; and others could be started at once, if the right conception of our work could be carried out.

Lansdale, Pa.—A congregation has formally been organized here with thirty odd confirmed members. A large, well-located lot has been purchased, and a brick church-building is in course of erection. No appropriation has been asked for. The services are mainly held in English.

Washington, D. C.—It gives me unfeigned pleasure, to be able to say that the outlook for an English congregation in this city has become very good. Long neglect, all sorts of difficulties, doubt and irresolution stood in the way. Yet a substantial triumph has been won. We have now at least forty names of persons likely to identify themselves with an English Reformed congregation, and at our first service we had an attendance of twenty in the morning, and thirty-five in the evening, almost every one of whom intending to go with the interest. At our next service we shall take into consideration the propriety of at once organizing. Some delay was deemed best in order to give all our people in Washington, an opportunity to attend, before it should take place. The Committee of Maryland Classis has given me efficient aid. We ask the hearty interest of the whole Church in this enterprise.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—At my last visit to this place, it was agreed that an organization should be deferred until winter or the late autumn, owing to the evil times, from which our members there were especially suffering. This was the request of the people themselves. I take it that now we would better go forward with an organization at an early day. Doubtless, in this the Mission Committee of East Susquehanna Classis, will co-operate with me very cheerfully. An appropriation of \$400 has been made for this place, to take effect whenever a Missionary is put in charge. English.

SUMMARY.

Mission in Synod in the U. S.....	17
“ “ Pittsburgh Synod.	12
“ “ Synod of the Potomac.....	8
“ under special care of Superintendent.....	3
Total.....	40

Missions Passing off the Board.

Meadville, Pa., Self-supporting,	June, 1876.
Triadelphia, W. Va., “	October, 1875.
Allentown, Pa. Salem, Self-supporting from beginning.	
Philadelphia, St. Stephen's, Self-supporting,	April, 1876.
Pittsburgh, St. Paul's, Transferred to Ger. East. Syn.,	October, 1876.
“ St. James', “ “ “	1876.
“ St. Luke's, “ “ “	1876.
Helvetia, W. Va., Transferred to St. John's Classis, O. Syn.,	1875.

FINANCES.

Our Board felt itself much hampered during the year, by the debt which came over from former years. Happily this is diminishing. Our estimated expense for the year was \$9,500. Our actual expense has been \$500 less. The following table will explain the particulars, as near as I can get at them :

Actual cost of Missions in Synod in the U. S.....	\$3,520 00
“ “ “ “ Pittsburg Synod.....	2,210 00
“ “ “ “ Synod of the Potomac.....	1,770 00
Salary of Superintendent.....	1,200 00
Traveling expenses of Supt, Members of Board and Ex-Council, and salary of Stated Clerk.....	300 00
Total.....	\$9,000 00

Over against this we have had an income of full *eleven thousand dollars*, as will be seen in the report of the Treasurer, to which I refer the Synods. I think I do not assume too much, when I say at this point, that the Church is to be congratulated upon this result. Personally I feel greatly pleased with it, especially when the times, and the divisions and obstructions within ourselves are considered.

IOWA MISSIONS.

The Church is well acquainted with the history of the Missions in Iowa Classis, Ohio Synod. They have looked to the East for support, and have received it to a considerable extent, yet in a way that was likely at any time, to produce irritation. With the view of relieving this abnormal state of things I entered some time ago, into correspondence with Rev. Dr. Williard, President of the Ohio Synod's Board of Missions, suggesting a transfer by said Board of the Missions in Iowa Classis, with their own consent, to our Board, and so opening up a normal way for help, from our Synods. The Ohio Synod's Board took favorable action, and passed the following resolution on the subject, which was also approved, at its late meeting, by our executive council.

"Resolved, That this Board gives its consent that any or all of the Missions now in Iowa, (the English Iowa Classis) be formally transferred to the Tri-Synodical Board of Missions, provided that said Missionaries or the Iowa Board of Missions make such request; in which case the officers of this Board are authorized to make the official transfer."

SUGGESTIONS.

1. To meet the current expenses of the coming year, and to pay off the balance of our debt we shall need an apportionment equal to that of last year. To the extent that charges pay up back apportionments we will be enabled to enlarge our work. The Classes will look after this matter. Last year's apportionment was \$15,000, as suggested; but the Pittsburgh Synod felt able to assume only \$2500 instead of \$3200. On this basis I would recommend the following division.

Synod in U. S.....	\$9,000
Pittsburgh Synod.....	2,500
Synod of the Potomac.....	3,500
Total	<u>\$15,000</u>

It is to be borne in mind that out of this sum, provision will have to be made for work in the Iowa Classis, and that the separate drain upon our congregations for that interest will probably cease by next spring.

2. The Synods will otherwise learn that the Executive Council at its late meeting passed a resolution by a majority vote, limiting, from December 1st, the time and salary of the Superintendent to such an extent as to meet the demands of the office in connection with his duties to a regular charge, should he enter the pastorate. Personally I can only view such a step as relieving me from a great burden, borne for three years simply in devotion to a great and good cause, with which my active life has been mainly identified. I have nothing to regret in this direction, and much to rejoice at. And yet I opposed the action of the Council, and shall give it no more than a negative assent, unless the Synods make it their own. In that case I shall still have doubts as to its wisdom, but shall give my hearty support to legitimate authority. My objections, among others, are these. 1) The Synods alone have the right to take absolute action in this case. The Superintendency holds from the Synods, which also elect the person filling it; not from the Executive Council or even the Board. If the Executive Council can do this, it can, by logical sequence, change the intent of any other fundamental article of the original agreement between the Synods; which means, again, that a combination of two or three men may modify essentially the most positive compacts. I can be no party to this. 2) My second objection is this. The step proposed is one backward, not forward. It is one likely to be retraced again, one of these days. Time will tell. *Dizi.*

In closing I repeat the language of my last report. "Special thanks are due our Missionaries for their steady labors amid severe self-denial. The Lord will reward them."

Respectfully submitted.

F. K. LEVAN,
Superintendent of Missions.

II. REPORT OF TREASURER.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

I have the honor to submit the following detailed statement of the receipts and disbursements of the Board during the year ending October 7th, 1876.

RECEIPTS.

SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

Classis of Philadelphia.....	\$264 11
(S. Schools, \$9 74)	
Classis of Goshenhoppen.....	1,114 12
Classis of East Pennsylvania.....	812 93

(S. Schools, \$4 81)	
Classis of Tobieken.....	539 57
Classis of Lebanon.....	1,495 33
(S. Schools, \$150.00)	
Classis of Lancaster.....	795 37
(S. Schools, \$67 47)	
Classis of West Susquehanna.....	551 19
Classis of East Susquehanna.....	418 91
<hr/>	
Total from Synod of the U. S. (including S. Schools \$232 02).....	\$5,991 53

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Classis of Zion.....	\$745 96
S. Schools, (\$13 39)	
Classis of Maryland.....	977 54
(S. Schools, (\$6 18)	
Classis of Mercersburg.....	148 14
(S. Schools, (30 26)	
Classis of Virginia.....	192 39
<hr/>	
Total from Synod of Potomac (including S. Schools \$49 83).....	\$2,064 03

SYNOD OF PITTSBURG.

Classis of Allegheny.....	\$221 25
Classis of Clarion.....	290 21
Classis of Somerset.....	365 67
From Treasurer of Synod.....	1,090 24
<hr/>	
Total from Synod of Pittsburg.....	\$1,967 37
<hr/>	
Total from the three Synods (including Sunday-schools).....	10,022 93
From Miscellaneous sources (includ' \$38 05 from Cal. Missions).....	300 80
Balance due the Board at date of last Report.....	232 07
<hr/>	
Total from all sources.....	\$10,555 80

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid orders of the Board during the year amounting to.....	\$9,645 05	
Paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis.....	277 03	\$9,922 08
<hr/>		
Balance due the Board.....		\$633 72

Respectfully submitted.

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer*.

I hereby certify that I have audited the account of Wm. H. Seibert by vouchers and find the same to be correct, and a balance of six hundred and thirty-three dollars and seventy-two cents in the Treasury. \$633.72, October 17th, 1876.

W. H. H. SNYDER.

III. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions, to whom the foregoing Reports had been referred, submitted their report, which was received, and taken up item by item, amended, and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Missions would respectfully report that the following documents were placed in our hands, as follows:

1. The Report of the Superintendent of Home Missions.
2. The Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions.
3. An Overture from Rev. J. B. Shontz, in which he tenders his services to the Synod, and volunteers to take charge of our missionary interests in Washington City, provided the Board of Missions commission him to that important field, and appropriate a sum to his support, sufficient only to pay the most necessary expenses of living.
4. A letter from Rev. J. Muellhaupt, Missionary at Salem, Oregon.

From the documents on Missions in our hands, we learn that notwithstanding the pressure of the times, the work has gone forward successfully. There have been forty missions under the care of the Tri-Synodic Board, eight of which only are within the bounds of this Synod. The whole amount received for missions during the year is \$10,555.80, a sum less than the actual demands of the work requires, and much beneath the ability of the Synods to contribute. Much remains undone for lack of funds. We believe that our people need only to have the claims of this work properly presented, to insure an increased liberality. Hard-earned wages are now due our Missionaries, who are living upon very small salaries. This ought not so to be.

There will be needed for the current year, the sum of at least \$15,000.00. We recommend the following action:

Resolved, That this Synod assume \$3,500.00 of this amount.

Resolved, further, That this amount be apportioned to the different Classes as follows:

Maryland Classis.....	\$1,300 00
Zion's.....	1,150 00
Mercersburg.....	700 00
Virginia.....	250 00
North Carolina.....	100 00

Making..... \$3, 500 00

Resolved, still further, That this Synod do hereby instruct the Board of Missions of the three Synods, to appropriate five hundred dollars of the \$3,500.00 assumed by this Synod, to the Missionary Board of the Iowa Classis, through the Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the General Synod; and also, that this Synod do hereby instruct the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions to appropriate five hundred dollars of the \$3,500.00 assumed by this Synod to the mission-

ary work in Virginia Classis, this sum to include what is already appropriated to the Mission at Winchester.

From the report of the Superintendent, we learn that the Executive Council of the Tri-Synodic Board, at its late meeting, determined to reduce the salary and time of the Superintendent's services two-thirds for the coming year, and that he be allowed to serve a pastorate, in addition to his Superintendency. We recommend the following action :

Resolved, That this Synod regard the action of the Executive Council of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, in determining to abbreviate the services of the superintendent as inexpedient, even if they had the authority to do so, before the expiration of the four years for which he was elected, and cannot therefore endorse that action.

Touching the overture from Rev. J. B. Shontz, we would recommend the following.

This Synod fully recognizes the importance of speedily establishing an English Mission at Washington, D. C., and therefore learns with pleasure from the Report of the Superintendent of Missions, that he in conjunction with a committee of the Maryland Classis has the missionary interests of Washington under their special control, and are about effecting an organization there. Therefore,

Resolved, That the proposition of Rev. J. B. Shontz be referred to the authorities about to organize the mission.

The letter of Rev. J. Muellhaupt asks that he be excused for non-attendance upon the present sessions of Synod. We recommend that he be excused.

Rev. J. Muellhaupt was the late pastor of the Stockton charge, and has removed to Salem, Oregon, where he has taken charge of a new mission field, and asks our prayers and material help. He with our other missionaries on the Pacific Coast have shown themselves earnest and self-denying laborers, who are deserving the confidence and support of this Synod. Therefore,

Resolved That Rev. J. Muellhaupt and his new field be referred to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions.

Resolved, That this Synod set apart this (Monday) evening for a missionary meeting.

Resolved, further, That the arrangements for this missionary meeting be referred to the Committee on Religious Services.

Respectfully submitted.

E. R. ESCHBACH,	} Committee.
W. F. COLLIFLOWER,	
CHAS. G. FISHER,	
ABRAHAM TAWNEY,	
PHILIP COBLENTZ,	

The missionary meeting was held on Monday evening, as proposed, and a collection lifted for the cause of missions. This collection was

ordered to be paid to the Treasurer of Synod, and by him remitted to the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions. Rev. E. R. Eschbach presided at the missionary meeting, and addresses were made by Revs. F. K. Levan, C. Cort, A. R. Kremer, J. A. Hoffheins and T. F. Hoffmeier.

Revs. J. A. Peters and E. R. Eschbach were elected members of the Synodic Board of Home Missions for the term of four years, or until October 1st, 1880.

The Committee, appointed at last annual meeting of Synod to prepare a paper expressing the sense of high appreciation with which this Synod regards the labors in which the Brethren on the Pacific Coast are engaged, and thus convey to them the cordial greetings, sympathy, and love of this Synod in their work, and assure them also of our fervent prayers to God for them and their labor of love, reported as follows, which was received and adopted, viz.:

The Committee to whom was assigned the duty of sending a letter of greeting to the brethren on the Pacific Coast, would beg leave to report,

That they attended to the duty assigned them.

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER, *Chairman.*

The Committee, to whom was referred the request from the San Francisco Classis for a loan of \$1000.00 in behalf of the San Francisco Church, offered the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

The Committee, to which was referred the request of the Classis of San Francisco, for a loan of \$1,000.00 from this Synod, upon certain conditions, offer the following report.

That under existing circumstances, this Synod deems it inexpedient to comply with said request.

Respectfully submitted.

M. H. SANGREE,
H. F. SEIPLE,
D. N. DITMAR,
SAMUEL B. SNIVELY.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his Annual Report, which was received, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows:

LOUIS MARKELL, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac.*

DR.

October 22, 1875.	To balance, cash on hand.....	\$263 15
Sept. 19, 1876.	To cash received of Mercersburg Classis.....	75 00
October 13, "	" Maryland Classis.....	70 00
October 16, "	" North Carolina Classis.....	20 00
October 20, "	" Zion's Classis.....	137 00
	Making.....	<u>\$565 15</u>

CONTRA, CR.

December 18, 1875.	By cash paid for Minute Book for Trustees of Synod	\$3 00
January 15, 1876.	By cash paid to Stated Clerk for freight and postage on Minutes, traveling expenses, and postage	14 00
January 24, 1876.	By cash paid to Reformed Church Publication Board for Printing Minutes of Synod	152 00
September 19, "	By cash paid to Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, salary as Stated Clerk	75 00
October 20, "	By balance, cash on hand.....	321 15
	Making.....	<u>\$565 15</u>

Due from Virginia Classis, \$20.00.

II. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance submitted their report, as follows, which was received and adopted, viz. :

Your Committee on Finance beg leave to report.

The Treasurer's Report shows the receipts during the last year, together with the balance remaining over from the year before, to be \$565.15.

Besides this there is remaining due from Virginia Classis, \$20.00.

The expenditures were \$244.00.

Your Committee examined the Report of the Treasurer, and although some of the vouchers were forgotten by the Treasurer, having been left at home, nevertheless the Committee are satisfied that the Report is correct.

Adding the assessment of \$166.00 by the General Synod upon this Synod, and which the Treasurer neglected to pay through a misapprehension, the expenditures would be \$410.00, leaving an unappropriated balance in the treasury of only \$155.15.

The following assessments are made to meet the expenses for the current year, viz. :

Mercersburg Classis	\$65 00
Zion's Classis	65 00
Maryland Classis.....	60 00
Virginia Classis.....	10 00
North Carolina Classis.....	10 00

Making.....\$210 00
 Respectfully submitted.
 S. N. CALLENDER, *Chairman.*

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod presented their annual report to Synod, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

Your Board of Trustees beg leave to report, That they held two meetings during the Synodical year. The first at the close of the sessions of Synod at Winchester for organization for the current year. The organization was effected by electing Rev. S. N. Callender, *President*, Rev. E. R. Eschbach, *Secretary*, and Elder Louis Markell, *Treasurer*.

In obedience to the instructions of the Synod at Winchester, your Board effected a loan of Two Thousand Dollars, which was duly paid over to the Reformed Church Publication Board in Philadelphia.

Your Agent, Rev. M. H. Sangree, went forth in obedience to Synod's direction and canvassed most of the field of this Synod to raise funds for the payment of this loan, and at the Board's second meeting for the year, during the sessions of the present Synod, submitting his report in part, relating to the results which have attended his labors.

His report sets forth that he succeeded in securing in individual subscriptions, some	\$1700 00
In pledges from Charges,	600 00
Of these he has collected about \$1,200.00, of which he has paid into the hands of the Treasurer,	1003 00

Some two or three hundred dollars will yet be needed to cover the gross amount of loan, interest, and cost of collection. This sum your Agent proposes to go forward to secure,—as also to superintend the collection of the sums yet due on subscriptions and pledges.

Your Board, in obedience to the direction of this Synod, arranged with the Agent the compensation to be rendered him for his labors, which they have fixed at 12 per cent. on the gross amount raised, together with his necessary expenses.

Your Board would congratulate Synod upon the success which has attended the efforts of the Agent, in securing so nearly the whole amount needed, and the certain prospect of speedily securing the deficit.

Respectfully submitted.

S. N. CALLENDER,
President of Board of Trustees.

Hon. Lewis H. Steiner, M.D., was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod, in the place of William Heyser, whose term is about expiring, to serve from January 1st, 1877, to January 1st, 1882.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

Nothing took place under this head.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its third Annual Report, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows :

The Sunday-school work is one which, in the nature of the case, is confined to individual congregations, and must be left principally to the judgment of the Consistories and Pastors, and in view of our dependence on other denominations for a Sunday-school literature, owing mainly to the want of means, the Sunday-school Board has little to report. At the meeting of Synod at Winchester, Va., the Synod instructed the Board "to prepare, or have prepared, a manual, giving a concise, practical, and popular account of the general idea or scheme of the Church Year, with specific, detailed statements of the significance of the separate days and seasons, and the logical order of thought contained in them." It was felt by the Board, at the time, that such a manual, much as it is to be desired, would be beyond the reach of the Board, and efforts, in a private way, were made to have the articles on the "Pericopes," published in the *Mercersburg Review*, continued, and in that way meet the wishes of the Synod. This was done as time and opportunity offered. The subject is one of vast significance, and it would be well to keep it before the mind of the Church, and patiently and earnestly studied, in the hope that it may fruit in the production of the work now felt to be needed.

As far as the Board is aware, the *Lesson Papers* are well received and supply a want.

The Board would recommend the following topics for discussion, with the names of brethren to discuss the same, as the order of the special service ordered by the last Synod to take place during the present sessions, to wit:

1. The Sunday-school in its relation to the family.—Revs. Dr. Kieffer and O. L. Ashenfelter.

2. The relation of our Sunday-school work to the conversion of our children.—Revs. Dr. Gans and I. G. Brown.

3. The true idea of a Sunday-school literature.—Revs. A. Wanner and Dr. Callender.

We would further recommend that Elder G. S. Griffith conduct this Synodical Sunday-school service; that the speakers be each limited in his remarks to ten minutes; and that a collection be lifted, the proceeds of which shall be placed in the hands of the Sunday-school Board, to be used as in its judgment it may determine.

• Respectfully submitted.

J. W. SANTEE,
J. A. PETERS,
G. S. GRIFFITH,
W. K. ZIEBER.

The Sunday-school meeting was held on Friday evening of the Sessions of the Synod, the services took place according to the foregoing programme and elicited marked attention, being of more than ordinary interest.

Rev. A. R. Kremer was elected a member of the Sunday-school Board for the term of five years.

The action of the last annual meeting, making it the duty of the Sunday-school Board either to prepare, or have prepared, a manual, giving a concise, practical and popular account of the general idea and scheme of the Church Year, with specific, detailed statements of the significance of the separate days and seasons, and the logical order of thought contained in them, was reiterated.

On motion, Friday evening, October 19th, 1877, of the next Synod, was set apart for the specific purpose of considering the work and interests of the Sunday-school cause.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT,

Item 2, under the heading *Irregularities*, in the report of the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classis was referred to a special committee, composed of Revs. J. A. Hoffeins, S. N. Callender, I. S. Weisz, and Elders H. Hause and J. T. Motter.

This Committee subsequently submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The Special Committee, to whom *Item 2*, under *Irregularities*, in the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classis was referred, offer the following for adoption:

In this item, covering a certain preamble and resolutions, this Synod is confronted with the fact that the Classis of North Carolina has undertaken to prepare for its use a new Hymn Book.

It is the unanimous judgment of your Committee, that such action is not only highly disrespectful to the General Synod, in view of its deliverance, at its last meeting, in answer to the request of said Classis on this subject, allowing its congregations the use of any collection of hymns published by a Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States. But further, That it is in direct conflict with and violation of Article 80 of the Constitution of the Reformed Church in the United States. Therefore,

Resolved, That the said Classis be and hereby is commanded and enjoined to desist from any further prosecution of a work such as is proposed in their action, or in the use of any other Hymn Book by her congregations than those already allowed, until the General Synod grants such permission.

Resolved, further, That the Stated Clerk of Synod be instructed to communicate this action to the President of North Carolina Classis at once.

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. HOFFEINS,	} Committee.
S. N. CALLENDER,	
I. S. WEISZ,	
H. HAUSE,	
J. TAYLOR MOTTER.	

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk in regard to the publication of the Minutes of the Third Annual Meeting of Synod, and was adopted.

The undersigned, as Stated Clerk of Synod, would respectfully report:

That he had twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the Third Annual Meeting of the Synod, published agreeably to the instructions of Synod, and distributed them according to the directions of the Synod. The members of the Synods of the United States, Ohio and Pittsburgh were generally furnished with a copy of the Minutes. Only a few copies were sent to ministers of the German Synods, as those Synods decline exchanging Minutes with the English Synods.

The Minutes were printed by the Reformed Church Publication Board of Philadelphia, Pa., as directed, and at a cost of \$152.00, which has been paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK,
Stated Clerk.

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of the present session, duly authenticated, published, and distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

Item 4 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures, consisting of the Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board, the Annual Statement of the Superintendent thereof, and also the new form of Charter adopted by the Board, was referred for consideration to a special committee, composed of Revs. W. K. Zieber, E. R. Eschbach, and Elder Judge Knode.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION BOARD.

The Committee offered the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Your Committee submit the following report:

The documents placed in our hands are:

1st. The Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board.

2d. The Annual Statement of the Financial Condition of said Board.

3d. A copy of the new Charter for said Board.

The items in these documents requiring action on the part of this Synod are as follows:

Item 1. The plan of operation agreed upon between this Synod and the Synods of the United States and of Pittsburgh have gone into effect. The new Charter, which has been carefully prepared, has not yet received the approval of the Courts. For this reason the Board requests that those of its members representing this Synod be conti-

nued for another year. Your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That Elders Adam B. Wingerd and Goldsboro S. Griffith be continued as members of the Reformed Church Publication Board until the next meeting of Synod.

Item 2. The enlarging of *The Messenger*, and the increase of the editorial force, have augmented the expenses of publication, which have not been covered by the amount realized from the enlarged subscription list. Your Committee believe, that our Church paper is deserving of a much wider circulation, and therefore proposes the following action:

Resolved, That this Synod rejoices in the improvements manifested in *The Messenger*, and earnestly recommends the Classes to make renewed efforts to increase its circulation.

Item 3. From the Financial Statement your Committee cannot learn what has been the profit or loss resulting from the Board's management, during the past year. We suggest the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Reformed Church Publication Board be requested so to prepare its future financial statements as to show clearly the actual loss or gain during each current year.

We recommend that the annual report and the copy of the Charter be recorded in the minutes.

Respectfully submitted.

W. K. ZIEBER,
WM. H. KNODE, } *Committee.*
E. R. ESCHBACH.

York, Pa., Oct. 21, 1876.

The following resolution was also adopted: •

Resolved, That the Synod of the Potomac will heartily co-operate with any agent the Reformed Church Board of Publication may see fit to put into the field to further its work.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BOARD OF PUBLICATION.

To the Synods of the United States, Pittsburgh, and the Potomac, the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully submits the following annual report:

The Board held one special session soon after the last annual meetings of the several Synods, and four regular quarterly meetings, at each of which the three Synods were represented, and earnest attention was given to matters relating to the interests of the Board.

The operations of the year have been carried forward under the disadvantages incident to all business enterprises in the midst of the continued financial pressure of the times, and though the results are

not as favorable as was to have been desired yet they are not without their encouraging aspects.

From the Annual Statement of the Superintendent submitted at the last quarterly meeting, which is full as to particulars, the following summary is gathered, as indicating the financial condition of the Board :

Receipts of the year.....	\$39,391 33	
Disbursements.....	37,479 86	
Excess of receipts.....	\$ 1,911 47	
Liabilities reported October 1, 1875.....	\$29,212 28	
Liabilities reported October 1, 1876.....	27,011 44	
Decrease.....	\$ 2,200 84	
General Assets Oct. 1, '75..	\$54,991 16	General Assets \$54,811 31
General Assets Oct. 1, '76..	54,811 31	Add Real Estate..... 35,000 00
Decrease.....	\$ 179 85	\$89,811 31
	General Liabilities.....	\$27,011 44
	Add Mortgage.....	20,000 00 47,011 44
	Excess of Assets.....	\$42,799 87
Advances of Treasurer, 1875.....	\$14,268 87	
Advances of Treasurer, 1876.....	12,357 40	
Decrease in Advances.....	\$1,911 47	

The agents of the Board have labored earnestly to collect outstanding dues of the past, and to enforce cash in advance payments both on periodicals and books in the future. They have, however, met with only partial success. These efforts are to be continued, and it is to be hoped that, with the active co-operation of the friends of the publication enterprise of the Church, they will be attended with greater success.

The funds proposed to be furnished by the Synods of the Potomac and of the United States, were received, and are included in the general receipts of the Board

Immediately at the first meeting after the adjournment of the Synods, the Board took measures to have its charter changed so as to conform to the arrangements entered into by the three Synods in regard to the publication interests represented in the Board. They have had to contend with the delays only too often incident to movements of this kind ; but have still succeeded in getting the new Charter drawn up in form, and having it acknowledged before the Recorder of Deeds, so that it may be expected soon to receive the approval of

the Courts, and go into full legal effect. A copy of the Charter accompanies this report. In view of the fact, that the new Charter has not yet obtained full legal sanction, the Board recommends to the Synods that they continue their present representatives in the Board for another year.

The wishes expressed by the three Synods in regard to the publication of *The Messenger* have received the earnest attention of the Board. The Rev. Dr. Peter S. Davis, who had been chosen Editor-in-chief, with his assistants appointed by the three Synods respectively, entered upon their duties with the opening of the present year. The paper has appeared in an enlarged and much-improved form, and has, as far as is known, given general satisfaction. To accommodate a certain class of subscribers, the paper is issued in two editions, the one being a double, and the other a single sheet. A respectable addition has been made to the subscription list; but it must be still further increased before a sufficient amount can be realized from receipts for subscription to cover the increased expenses of publication. It is to be hoped that active measures will be taken by the respective Synods to aid the Board in their efforts to place *The Messenger* on a paying basis, by greatly extending its circulation.

Agreeably to the instructions of the Synod of the United States, the Board resumed the publication of the *Mercersburg Review*. An edition of five hundred copies has been issued. The subscription list has been slightly increased; but still not to an extent to make its receipts cover the expenses. It greatly needs increased co-operation on the part of its friends.

The *Lammerhirte* was transferred to the German Publishing House at Cleveland, Ohio, with the opening of the year. The other periodicals of the Church, the *Guardian*, *Lesson Papers*, and *Child's Treasury*, meet with continued favor, and are accomplishing their proposed work in their respective spheres.

A change has taken place in the Business Agent of the Book Department. At the first quarterly meeting, J. David Miller, who has occupied this position for a number of years, tendered his resignation, which went into effect on the 1st of April last. Charles H. Taylor was secured as his successor, who entered upon his duties on the 15th of May. He is well qualified for the position, and is prosecuting his duties with energy and efficiency. With a proper co-operation on the part of the Church, there is every reason to believe that he will be able to make this department of our publication operations a decided success.

The Synod of the United States instructed the Board to appoint an agent to collect the monies to replace the amount borrowed by it for the use of the Board, as well as to work for the general interests of the establishment. The Board secured the services of the Rev. Jacob F. Wiant for this purpose, who entered upon his duties in February last. He has met with some success, especially as relates to advancing the general interests of the Board, and it is to be hoped his continued ser-

vices may be secured. As his operations concern more especially the Synod of the United States, a separate report of them from him will be submitted to it.

With the above statement, the Board earnestly commends the publication interests of the Church, as entrusted to it, to the hearty and prayerful consideration of the respective Synods, and solicits their ardent prayers and continued active co-operation in its behalf.

Respectfully submitted.

D. W. GROSS, *President.*

SAM'L R. FISHER, *Secretary.*

FORM OF CHARTER.

SECTION I. The name and title of this Corporation shall be "The Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States."

SECTION II. Its object shall be the publication and sale of such works, permanent and periodical, as are adapted to promote sound learning and true religion.

SECTION III. This Corporation shall be constituted of a Board of Trustees consisting at present of Daniel W. Gross, George Gelbach, George W. Hensel, John W. Love, Barnard Wolff, Adam B. Wingerd, and Goldsboro S. Griffith, who shall hold their office until successors are duly qualified to take their places, to be chosen by the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, the Pittsburgh Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, and the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, and such other Synod or Synods of the Reformed Church in the United States as the Synods represented in the Corporation may see fit, by unanimous consent among themselves, to associate with them in the work of Publication, at such time and in such order, number, and manner, as shall be mutually agreed upon by the aforesaid Synods: Provided, that not more than one-third of the Trustees shall be removed in any one year, and that at least two-thirds of the Trustees shall at all times be citizens of the State of Pennsylvania; vacancies, however, occurring by death, resignation, or disqualification under the By-Laws of this Corporation may be filled by the Corporation itself, until the next annual meeting of the Synods when it shall be competent for them to fill such vacancies in such manner as may have been provided for among themselves.

SECTION IV. The Trustees hereby incorporated and their successors shall, subject to the supervision and direction of a majority of the Synods referred to in the previous Section, have full power to hold and manage the funds and property entrusted to them, and to conduct the particular business assigned to them in such manner as shall be deemed most advantageous and not contrary to law. Provided always, the clear yearly income above expenses from the real and personal estate held by said Corporation shall not at any time exceed the sum of twenty thousand dollars; and, Provided also, they shall not dispose

of or encumber any of said real estate without first having obtained the consent of a majority of the Synods controlling the Corporation.

SECTION V. This Corporation shall have power, from time to time, to adopt such By-Laws as it may deem necessary for its government; and also to alter and amend the same as it may see fit, Provided they do not conflict with the Constitution and Laws of the United States, the Constitution and Laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, this Charter, and the Constitution and Laws of the Reformed Church in the United States.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers.

The Society for the relief of disabled ministers and the widows of deceased ministers of the Reformed Church in the United States submitted the following statement to the Synod, which was received and ordered to be incorporated in the Minutes, viz.:

The Society for the Relief of Disabled Ministers and the Widows of Deceased Ministers, would respectfully present to the Synod the following statement of its condition and operations, with the request that it be placed on the Minutes:

Amount invested.....	\$12,750 00
Amount in the Treasury.....	1,322 02
Whole amount.....	\$14,072 02

Amount appropriated for the support of its beneficiaries during the present year..... \$700 00

The Society has under its care two disabled ministers, eleven widows, and two aged unmarried females, daughters of a deceased minister, who was a member of the old Society.

The Society adopted the following resolution at its late meeting, viz.:

Resolved, That the Synod of the Potomac be petitioned to request that collections be taken up in the congregations within its bounds on or about the third Sunday in June next, in aid of this Society.

Respectfully submitted. W. F. COLLIFLOWER, *Secretary*.

The congregations belonging to Synod were, on motion, requested to lift collections for the benefit of the Society, at the time designated.

The Committee on Overtures, under item 3, reported a communication, in the form of an annual statement from the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa. This paper was re-

ferred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. A. R. Kremer, A. G. Dole and Elder D. S. Firor.

This Committee reported during Friday afternoon's session, as follows, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Your Committee to whom was referred the "Annual Statement of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa.," beg leave to report:

That this Synod has heard with great pleasure, and with gratitude to the Good Shepherd of the lambs, of the prosperity and continued usefulness of the Bethany Orphans' Home; that all its inmates have been favored with good bodily health, and, above all, with the blessings of divine grace through the ministrations of the Church, a very encouraging number of orphans having been admitted to full communion by Confirmation. Therefore,

Resolved, That this institution be commended to the favorable consideration, to the prayers and liberality of all the membership of the Reformed Church within the bounds of this Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

A. R. KREMER	} Committee.
A. G. DOLE,	
DAVID S. FIROR.	

On the afternoon of the third day of the session, the Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received and adopted. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two hundred tickets of these nominations printed for the use of the Synod, and the election was made the order of the day, for the opening of Saturday afternoon's session.

At the appointed time, the election was held. Revs. J. T. Roositer and P. A. Long and Elders J. Heyser and B. R. Carnahan were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Trustees of Synod, Missions and Sunday-School, respectively.

During Friday afternoon's session, Rev. Dr. J. W. Nevin, who was present as an advisory member, was requested to address the Synod, and Saturday morning's session, at 10 o'clock, was fixed upon as the time for this address. At the specified hour, Rev. Dr. Nevin proceeded to address the Synod, speaking for upward of an hour, and was listened to most attentively.

At the conclusion of the address the following resolution was moved and adopted by a rising vote:

Resolved, That this Synod heartily appreciates the service which the Rev. Dr. Nevin has hitherto rendered to the Church; that we tender him our warmest thanks for the instructive address with which he has at this time favored us; and, further, that a copy of the same be requested for publication in the *Mercersburg Review*.

During the session of Monday morning, the Rev. G. W. Glessner, who has spent about forty-four years in the work of the ministry, and who has been perhaps, with one exception, the longest in the ministerial ranks of any connected with the Synod, was invited to address the Synod. The time chosen for the delivery of this address was at the opening of Monday afternoon's session. At the appointed hour, this venerable father addressed the Synod in solemn words, at considerable length, and was listened to very attentively by the members of Synod and visitors who were present. A vote of thanks was returned to Father Glessner for his earnest and excellent address.

The special addresses of these two venerable men were a new feature in the proceedings of the Synod, but one whose effect was happy indeed, and their influence, it is believed, will have excellent results.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon the members of Synod, to meet incidental expenses. The Revs. J. M. Souder, W. R. H. Deatrich, D. M. Whitmore and D. W. Kelly were appointed a committee to collect said assessment.

At a subsequent session, the Committee reported as follows, which was received and adopted, viz. :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :—

Your Committee appointed to collect an assessment of twenty-five cents from each member of Synod to compensate the sexton of the church, and pay incidental expenses, respectfully report, that the Committee have called upon the members of Synod present, and have received the sum of twenty-one dollars and ten cents, which has been handed over to the pastor of the church.

Respectfully submitted.

J. M. SOUDER, *Chairman.*

The Committee, appointed at the Synod of Hanover, which, in conjunction with a similar Committee from the Synod of the United States, was empowered to prepare and publish an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church" with *music*, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :—

Your Committee, appointed to prepare an edition of the Hymn Book accompanied with music, respectfully report, that they have held a joint session with the committee appointed for the same end by the Synod of the United States, and that at this session work was apportioned out to the members of the Committees; and that much preparatory labor has been accomplished. Soon another general meeting of the Committees will be held and the work thus far done carefully examined and passed upon. The task is too great to be hurried, and your Committee can do no more than in this way report progress, and ask to be continued.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman*

The Committee appointed, in conjunction with similar committees from the Synods of the United States and Pittsburgh, to elect an Editor in chief to edit *The Messenger*, made the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :—

Your Committee appointed to confer with a joint committee of the Synods of the United States and of Pittsburgh with power to confirm and carry out the new arrangement proposed in reference to the Board of Publication, respectfully report, that they met, in joint Conference with the Committees above mentioned, at Lancaster, Pa., during the regular sessions of the Eastern Synod; and after consultation and with great unanimity acquiesced in the new arrangement ratified by the Synod of the United States, and proceeded to the election of an editor in chief. The choice fell upon Rev. Dr. P. S. Davis, who was duly notified, and subsequently gave notice of his acceptance, and has entered upon the work.

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman.*

Revs. F. Fox, J. Ziegler, J. C. Hensell, G. H. Martin, J. S. Kieffer, A. J. Whitmore, Wm. C. Schaeffer, Wm. A. Gring, E. N. Kremer, and M. L. Shuford were severally excused for their non-attendance upon the present meeting of Synod.

On Friday afternoon, Revs. J. O. Miller, I. G. Brown, and O. E. Lake were appointed a Committee, through which all applications for leave of absence were to be made, and their report, submitted shortly before final adjournment, was received and adopted.

The following members of Synod obtained leave of absence and left before the sessions closed, viz. Revs. U. H. Heilman, H. Wissler, H. Talhelm, W. Goodrich, W. D. Lefevre, W. H. Herbert, H. H. W. Hibshman, J. Sechler, A. G. Dole, G. W. Glessner, F. W. Vander-sloot, I. M. Motter, P. A. Long, I. G. Brown, E. E. Higbee, and A. Spangler, and Elders J. Heffelfinger, J. Ditzler, E. Williard, J. Middlekauff, J. F. Crawn, J. Hartman, W. H. Bargelt, J. Seibert, P. Aulabaugh, P. Stambaugh, S. B. Snively, W. Bossert, D. S. Firor, J. Heyser, J. Roth, and W. H. Knode.

A point of order was raised in regard to the custom of requiring members of the Synod, who may fail to appear at the opening session of the Synod, to render an excuse for tardiness when they appear upon the floor of Synod at a subsequent session, and it was decided that hereafter such practice be omitted, and that such persons, be regarded as amenable to their respective Classes in the case of

ministers, and to their proper pastoral charges in the case of delegated elders.

ARTICLE XXII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and adopted, viz. :

Resolved, That the most hearty thanks of this Synod are hereby tendered to the Pastor, Consistory, and members of Trinity Reformed Church of York, Pa., and also to the members of the other Reformed congregations and other citizens of the place, for their kind entertainment and liberal hospitality extended to us, during our present sessions in their midst.

Resolved, That the Pastor of Trinity Church be directed to read the foregoing resolution from his pulpit, and have it published in the daily papers of York.

Resolved, further, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to return the thanks of this Synod to the Officers of the Pennsylvania Central, the Northern Central, the Western Maryland, the Cumberland Valley, the Hanover Branch, the Gettysburg, and the Broad Top Railroad Companies for their kindness in making provision to pass the members of Synod over their respective roads at reduced rates of fare.

The Synodical Roll was then called finally, and the following members were found absent without permission, viz.

Rev. A. Wanner, and Elders Daniel Hamm, Augustus Waltman, Josiah Thomas, and Jacob Law.

The Minutes were then read and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIII.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be *in Convention*.

Resolved, That we adjourn to meet again in annual Sessions in the First Reformed Church of Baltimore, Md., on Wednesday, the 17th day of October, A. D. 1877, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Adjourned with the repetition of the Apostles' Creed, prayer, the doxology, and the Apostolic Benediction by the President.

D. GANS, *President*.

Official Copy from the Original Minutes.

Attest, Wm. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

CLASSIS OF ZION.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'rs.	Benev. Contrib'u's.	Gene- ral.	Local.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Jacob Seehler,	4 Marheim,	450	180	30	21	410	100			13	8		\$200 00				Hanover, York County, Pa.
F. W. Vandersloot,	3 Mt. Pleasant,	270	150		37	328				19	2						York, York do
Daniel Kiegle,	2 Dillsburg,	250	214	15													Dillsburg, York do
Jacob Ziegler,	Without charge.																York, York do
Jacob O. Miller, D. D.,	1 Trinity Church, York,	376	305	30	45	18 355			8	7	4	550	500 00	4550 00			York, York do
Daniel Gring,	5 Shrewsbury,	490	275	31		1 425				9	8	300	154 21				Shrewsbury, York do
William K. Zieber, D. D.,	1 Hanover,	321	275	17	1	1 275			4	10	1	230	435 00				Hanover, York do
John Ault,	2 Christ Church,	920	480	61	57	14 820			12	15	4	300	210 00				Littlestown, Adams do
W. R. H. Deatrich,	2 Mechanicsburg,	294	193	30	10	2 291			8	10	2	170	105 00				Mechanicsburg, Cumberl'd do
Moses Kieffer, D.D.,	2 Gettysburg,	320	175	20	20	4 305			6	5	1	125	87 00	125 00			Gettysburg, Adams do
Jacob D. Zehring,	5 Emanuel's,	880	383	84	36	4 789			7	19	10	300	203 51	200 00			Codorus, York do
Rinehart R. Smith,	3 Trinity,	294	235	46	16	8 194			1	13	6	162	43 00				York, York do
A. J. Heller,	3 Conowago,	480	305	27	20	8 440			2	7	3	200	116 38				2 Arendtsville, Adams do
Oliver L. Aschenfelder,	244 142 23	244	142	23	14	11 200			9	5	1	190	65 00				Carlisle, Cumberland do
Aaron Wanner,	3 York Springs,	200	180	29	21	160				5	2	75	38 00	1000 00			York, York do
Aaron Spangler,	1 Zion's, (German),	456	165	28	17	285			1	18	1	110	79 97				York, York do
F. S. Lindaman,	4 Zion's,	375	275	25	35	7 300			14	7	6	250	142 61				1 Blain, Perry do
Israel S. Weiss, D. D.,	4 Paradise,	750	515	61	46	12 671			13	26	8	300	422 41				York, York do
Reuben Rauhauser,	4 Kreutz Creek,	200	150	19	1	7 150			2	13	4	300	43 26				York, York do
W. H. Herbert,	4 Landisburg,	312	150	13	19	9 258			3	2	4	140	143 87				Landisburg, Perry do
George W. Glessner,	1 Newburg,	88	120	5	2	10 2 88			2	5	1	85	26 80				Newburg, Cumberland do
Wm. F. Colldflower,	5 Abbotstown,	660	600	38	9	61 10 600			4	15	8	395	85 40				2 New Oxford, Adams do
James I. Good,	1 Heidelberg Ch.,	131	95	15	27	27 111			4	2	1	164		450 00			York, York do
John Kretzing,	3 New Bloomfield,	300	170	11	3	3 183			3	5	3	275	75 00				Newport, Perry do
sup. by Aschenfelder and																	
Deatrich,	3 Sulphur Springs,	173	136	5		3 164			1	1	3	75	18 50				Duncannon, Perry do
Uriah H. Holman,*	3 Duncannon,	130	25			110			5		3	90		18 00			
sup. by Rev. A. Wanner,	1 Mt. Zion Cong.,	75	70	7	5	45				2	1	70					
Vacant,	1 St. Andrew's Cong.,	12				12											
* Recently taken charge.																	
T'tal, 25.		9411	5963	670	11	505,164,7965			109	223	87	4856	\$2843 92	\$6365 00		6	

CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schols.	Revolut ⁿ Contribu- tions.	Theolog. Students.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Joseph W. Santee, D. D.,	4 Cavetown,	375	170	16	12	1	325		2	1	4	200	\$155 85	Cavetown, Washington Co., Md.
George L. Staley, D. D.,	1 St. Stephens, Supply,	25	20	1					4				15 00	Knoxville, Frederick do
Edmund R. Eschbach,	1 Evangelical Reformed	530	475	47	36	7	392		6	31	2	490	1047 01	Frederick, do
William Goodrich,	2 Clearspring,	141	100	15	6	141			3	11	2	140	102 97	Clearspring, Washington do
Simon S. Miller,	2 Boonsboro,	158	109	15	7	140			7	6	2	160	143 65	Boonsboro, do
J. Spangler Kieffer,	2 Hagerstown,	276	212	15	36	4	247		4	12	1	220	352 70	Hagerstown, do
Abner R. Kremer,	2 Emmittsburg,	360	212	30	17	6	287		8	6	2	50	115 00	Emmittsburg, Frederick do
William C. Cremer,	3 Westminster,	660	460	67	36	6	560		5	15	1	370	135 00	Westminster, Carroll do
W. Augustus Gring,	3 Mt. Moriah,	137	79	5	8	5	105		3	1	3	180	59 10	Man's Choice, Bedford Co., Pa.
Daniel Gans, D. D.,	1 Third Church, Balt.,	290	220	17	18	8	240		3	6	2	306	200 00	67 N. Paca St., Baltimore, Md.
Mortimer L. Shuford,	1 Burkittsville,	125	47	10	9	5	117		5	1	1	30	20 00	Burkittsville, Frederick Co., do
P. Allison Long,	4 Taneytown,	350	313	37	20	11	300		6	8	2	200	80 00	Taneytown, Carroll do
Orange E. Lake,	4 Glade,	340	275	32	56	11	325		1	20	3	200	67 40	Walkersville, Frederick do
David W. Kelley,	3 Manchester,	410	320	28			400		14	2	260	111 00	Manchester, Carroll do	
Joel T. Rossiter,	1 First Church, Balt.,	286	86	26	32	28	233		5	7	1	247	97 50	208 N. Calvert St., Balt., do
N. H. Skyles,	4 Jefferson,	300	250	23	30	30	295		7	1	120	69 00	Jefferson, Frederick do	
Henry Wisler,	5 Mechanicstown,	289	200	28	26	3	247		2	8	4	75	42 25	Mechanicstown, do
T. Franklin Hoffmeier,	1 Middletown,	346	270	27	24	310			13	7	1	250	75 00	Middletown, do
Benj. Schneider, D. D.,	Foreign Missionary,													Alutab, Syria.
Nicholas E. Gilds,	Without charge,													Mechanicstown, Frederick Md.
J. Mortimer Souder,	1 Christ's Church,	64	55	2			55		4	1	1	30		Taylorstown, Loudon Co., Va.
Charles H. Coon, Lic.,*	3 Mt. Pleasant,	85	86	1	2	2	56		1	1	1	50	23 00	Hagerstown, Washington Co., Md.
Anthony Shulenberger,*														
Total, 23.		5547 3959	442	375 97 4775					70	167	40	3578 2911	43	4

* Recently taken charge.

CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.	(Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	7. Schols.	7. Schls's.	Benef.	Contribu's.	Stud. Min'y.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
William M. Deatrick,	Agent Merc. College,	376	299	11	27	10	358	1	8	3	199	\$1463.05	1	1	Mercersburg, Franklin Co., Pa.	
Isaac G. Brown,	3 Mercersburg,	307	245	36	30	14	270	12	15	1	125	368.25	1	1	do do	
Adam C. Whitmer,	1 Altoona,	76	11	2	2	3	75	6	6	4	100	128.07	6	1	Blair do	
E. E. Higbee, D. D.,	1 College church,	406	380	29	15	3	380	5	4	2	216	125.98	6	1	Mercersburg, Franklin do	
John H. Sykes,	6 Woodcock Valley,	329	240	30	27	9	272	6	4	2	272	125.75	5	1	James Creek, Huntingdon do	
H. H. W. Hishman,	2 Waynesboro,	350	150	26	48	3	343	12	6	2	212	128.8	3	1	Waynesboro, Franklin do	
Albert G. Dole,	2 Huntingdon,	245	187	39	2	3	234	4	19	15	2	90	137.98	8	1	Huntingdon, Huntingdon do
Wm. D. Lefevre,	3 Schellsburg,	379	150	20	45	15	365	18	5	2	150	1248.23	3	1	Schellsburg, Bedford do	
John A. Peters,	3 Watertown,	321	200	21	10	10	300	1	9	3	175	280.60	6	1	Alexandria, Huntingdon do	
Ellis N. Kremer,	3 Bedford,	230	150	17	16	5	240	4	6	4	200	113.50	1	1	Bedford, Bedford do	
Milton H. Sangree,	4 Everett,	190	189	8	43	4	170	14	16	3	100	100.35	3	1	Everett, Bedford do	
Henry I. Comfort,	3 Grindstonehill,	299	230	29	13	2	260	5	15	4	208	134.04	4	1	Chambersburg, Franklin do	
Henry F. Seiple,	4 Woodbury,	296	300	29	31	9	279	1	8	2	200	166.00	1	1	Pattonsville, Bedford do	
David N. Dittmar,	4 St. Clairsville,	290	206	25	29	6	276	1	10	2	150	111.00	1	1	St. Clairsville, Bedford do	
David M. Whitmore	2 Friend's Cove,	245	127	11	13	1	220	4	11	4	105	271.35	3	1	Charlesville, do do	
William I. Stewart	4 Loudon & St. Thomas,	61	45	5	2	1	52	3	1	3	70	63.70	1	1	St. Thomas, Franklin do	
John M. Schick,	2 Orbisonia,	68	34	3	3	1	64	2	1	1	75	13.00	1	1	Orbisonia, Huntingdon do	
Carl Gundlach,	1 St. John's, Chamb.,	165	68	8	5	5	150	4	6	2	166	190.12	1	1	Chambersburg, Franklin do	
Isaac M. Moter,	2 Mont Alto,	135	70	2	2	100	10	1	1	60	10.15	1	1	Waynesboro, do do		
David W. Ebert,	1 Shippensburg,	290	190	22	18	17	245	11	13	1	359	435.25	1	1	Shippensburg, Cumberland do	
Vacant,	1 Chambersburg,	229	160	12	16	1	196	3	7	1	90	218.56	1	1	Chambersburg, do do	
"	1 Greencastle,	360	375	120	96	5	330	5	15	2	150	197.20	1	1	Greencastle, do do	
"	4 Greenfield,	300	195	22	25	15	250	17	3	3	210	76.00	1	1	Sarah, Blair do	
"	3 Martinsburg,	168	105	12	19	4	188	10	3	100	63.27	1	1	Martinsburg, do do		
"	4 McConnellsburg,	196	110	9	9	180	6	1	65	37.45	1	1	1	McConnellsburg, Fulton do		
"	3 Sulphur Springs,	70	55	2	2	60	4	4	208.48	10	23	1	1	1	Mann's Choice, Bedford do	
"	1 Middleburg,	6387.4471	539.528	148.5803	8	132	200.54	3709	\$6536	10	23	1	1	1	Middleburg, Franklin do	
Total, 35.																

Total, 35.

CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG, CONCLUDED.

MINISTERS.	REMARKS.	ADDRESS.
George R. Zacharias.....	Disabled	Upper Strasburg, Franklin County, Pa.
Jacob B. Kerschner.....	Professor in Mercersburg College.....	Mercersburg, do do
Elias D. Shoemaker	Disabled.....	Bedford do
Jeriah S. Shade.....	Without Charge.....	McConnellsburg, Fulton do
Ambrose C. Geary.....	do	Keedysville, Washington Co. Md.
Henry Miller.....	Superannuated	Waynesboro, Franklin do Pa.
Jacob Hassler.....	Principal of Female Seminary, and Supply for Loudon and Fannettsburg Churches.....	Mercersburg, do do
Wm. C. Schaeffer.....	Teacher in the Ku'tstown Normal School.....	Kutztown, Berks do
Solomon B. Schafer....	Supply for Sulphur Springs Charge.....	Carlisle, Cumberland do
Samuel R. Bridenbaugh.....	Principal of Juniata Collegiate Institute	Martinsburg, Blair do
Frederick A. Ruple.....	Without Charge	do do do
Henry Hanhart.....	do	Cincinnati, Ohio.
John B. Kieffer.....	Professor in Mercersburg College.....	Mercersburg, Franklin do Pa.
George N. Abbott.....	do do	do do do
George F. Mull.....	Licentiate	Germany, Europe.

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communi- cants.	Recom- mants.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	R. Schools.	S. S. Sch'l'g.	Benev. Contribu's.	Candidates for Min'ry.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
John C. Hensell,	3 Rockingham,	173	100	5	6		146		4	5	3	150	\$60 00		Mt. Crawford, Rock'm Co., Va.
Geo. H. Martin, D. D.,	4 Woodstock,	360		20	11	300				9	1	90	76 00		Woodstock, Shenandoah Co
H. St. J. Rinker,	1 Lovettsville,	102	71	12	3	69				1	1	65	30 00		Lovettsville, Loudon do
Sam'l N. Callender, D. D.,	2 Mt. Crawford,	195		14	9	3	180			1	2	50	70 00		Pleasant Valley, Rockingh. do
Henry Tallhelm,	3 Edenburg,	165		13	13		160		1	2	1	25	25 00		Edenburgh, Shenandoah do
Charles G. Fisher,	2 Winchester,	107	76	7	9	13	78		3	2	1	80	20 00		Winchester, Frederick do
A. Jackson Bowers,	4 Mill Creek,	207		16	17	183				7	1	60	49 04		Weyer's Cave, Augusta do
John A. Hoffheins,	1 Martinsburg,	176		4	9	12	158		5	4	1	152	125 50		Martinsburg, Berkley W. Va.
John C. Bowman,	1 Shepherdstown,	126	55	7	8		107		1	3	1	115	45 00		Shepherdstown, Jefferson W. Va.
Anderson J. Whitmore,	2 Middlebrook,*	147					140								Middlebrook, Augusta Co., Va.
Joseph S. Loose,	Without charge,														Harrisonburg, Rockingham do
Total, 11.		1758	302	98	84	281	1281		14	35	11	787	\$498 81	2	

* Report of last year.

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Bapt.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'rs.	Benef. Contribu's.	General Specials.	Sta. F. Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
George Wm. Walker,	3 Guilford,	277	147	8	1	5				3	2	200	\$44 70	\$8 00	Sta. F. Min.	Greensboro, N. C.
Jeremiah Ingold.	Without charge,															Hickory Tavern, do
Thomas Long,	4 Upper Davidson,	207		11	11	25	2			1			20 40			Salem, do
Jesse W. Cecil,	Without charge,												*			Thomasville, do
John Ingle,	do do															Shaw's Mills, do
John C. Denny,	do do															Gold Hill, do
Jacob C. Clapp,	6 Newton,	328	167	23	2	26	1	185	1	7	3	150	180 00	140 00	1	Newton, do
Peter M. Trexler,	Without charge,															Salisbury, do
M. L. Hedrick,	4 Lower Davidson,	187	90	20		21	1		2	2						Silver Hill, do
J. A. Foil,	Co-Pastor,	188	79	15		5	3			1	1	50	23 70			Newton, do
J. H. Shuford,	4 Grace,	261	140			51	1		2	2	2	100	26 00	360 00	2	Hickory Tavern, do
Vacant,	2 East Rowan,	159														
"	2 C.	261														
"	2 W.	261														
Total, 11.		1868	623	77	14	127	8	185	3	15	11	500	\$294 80	\$508 00	3	

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Excom.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	S. Sch's.	Reviv.	Stud. for Holy Min.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Julius H. Krueger,	1 First Reformed Ch.,	36	105	71	7	7	36			12	1	95	\$34 35	San Francisco, California.
L. C. Edmunds,	1 First Reformed Ch.,	50	74	9			40			2	1	65	45 00	Stockton, do
Frederick Fox,	1 Salem Reformed Ch.,	26	40	12	1	1	25			2	1	40	10 00	Napa, Napa County, do
John Gantenbein,	1 Ev. Reformed Church,	66	70	10	6	12	66			3	1	50		Portland, Oregon.
J. Muelhaupt,*														Salem, do
Total, 5.		178	289	102	620	167				19	4	250	\$59 35	

* Congregation not yet organized.

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FIFTH ANNUAL SESSIONS.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

ynod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH,

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

Baltimore, Md., October, A. D., 1877.

YORK, PA.

GAZETTE STEAM JOB PRINT.

1877.



FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

CONVENED IN CONVENTION,

BALTIMORE, MD., OCTOBER, 1877.

YORK, PA.:

GAZETTE STEAM JOB PRINT.

1877.

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ART. II. MEMBERS PRESENT.

ART. III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

ART. IV. RULES OF ORDER.

ART. V. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

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2. *On Minutes of Synod.*
3. *On Overtures.*
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5. *On Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.*
6. *On the State of Religion and Statistical Reports.*
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ART. XI. EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND ORDINATION.

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FIFTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

*Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its Annual Sessions, convened in Convention, in Baltimore, Md., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-seven.
The Sessions commenced on the evening of the Seventeenth, and continued until the night of the Twenty-third day of the month, inclusive, at eleven o'clock.*

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in *Convention*, on Wednesday evening, October 17th, A. D. 1877, at 7½ o'clock, in the First Reformed Church of the City of Baltimore, Md., pursuant to appointment of last annual meeting, and was opened with the usual religious services. The President of the previous year, Rev. Daniel Gans, D. D., preached the opening sermon from 1 John 5:12—"He that hath the Son, hath life; he that hath not the Son of God, hath not life."

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers.—Jacob O. Miller, D. D., John Ault, Jacob D. Zehring, Rhinehart R. Smith, Aaron Wanner, Aaron Spangler, Francis S. Lindaman, Reuben Rauhauser, Israel S. Weisz, D. D., William H. Herbert, Andrew J. Heller, George W. Glessner, D. D., John Kretzing, J. Marion Mickle, E. Garver Williams, Amos H. Kremer, D. D., William F. Colliflower, and William R. H. Deatrich.

Elders.—Charles A. Shultz, Solomon Schwartz, Emanuel Krone, Jacob March, Charles Young, George W. Hench, John Wehler, John Hager, Henry Hartzel, Michael McSherry, Jacob Miller, Alfred H. Addams, Samuel R. Weaver, Henry M. Cocklin, and John Hefflefinger.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers.—Joseph W. Santee, D. D., Edmund R. Eschbach, William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, J. Spangler Kieffer, Daniel Gans, D. D., Mortimore L. Shuford, P. Allison Long, Orange E. Lake, Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, Henry Wissler, T. Franklin Hoffmeier, Charles H. Coon, Ambrose C. Geary, John G. Noss, Anthony Shulenberg, Jonas B. Shontz, George L. Staley, D. D., Abner R. Kremer, and licentiate George M. Zacharias.

Elders.—Andrew Weagly, Louis Markell, John Shifler, David Zeller, George Frank, Jacob H. Hinea, Goldsboro S. Griffith, David S. Firor, Hanson T. Rudy, Christian M. Keedy, Peter B. Mikesell, Joshua Albaugh, Joseph Seibert, and J. Taylor Motter.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers.—William M. Deatruck, Isaac G. Brown, A. Carl Whitmer, John H. Sykes, William D. Lefevre, John A. Peters, Ellis N. Kremer, David N. Dittmar, John M. Schick, William I. Stewart, Isaac M. Motter, William C. Cremer, Milton H. Sangree, Albert G. Dole, Henry I. Comfort, David W. Ebbert, Jacob Hassler, Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., and David M. Whitmore.

Elders.—Isaac H. Keefer, John P. Reed, William Neff, Joseph Stickle, Josiah P. Diehl, George W. Betz, Jacob B. Resser, Andrew R. Schnebly, David Dunn, George Koons, and J. Rhawm Pague.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers.—Henry St John Rinker, Samuel N. Callender, D. D., Charles G. Fisher, Henry Tallhelm, John C. Bowman, Anderson J. Whitmore, Barton R. Carnahan, George H. Martin, D. D., John A. Hoffheins, and Joseph S. Loose.

Elders.—John H. Bauserman, William A. Mohler, Henry W. Roller, Charles P. Matthaei, Richard L. Gray, Emanuel Staley, and William W. Wenner.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

* * * * *

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

* * * * *

NOTE.—A number of members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session, and hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would have appeared, had they been present at the formation of the Roll at the opening session. A number of members also were granted leave of absence from day to day.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

From the Synod of the United States.—Revs. W. E. Krebs, C. S. Gerhard, G. H. Johnston, S. R. Fisher, D. D., J. S. Vandersloot, and licentiate F. J. Sauerbier.

From the Synod of Pittsburgh.—Revs. H. W. Hoffmeier, and J. McConnell.

From the Synod of Ohio.—Rev. H. F. Long.

From the German Synod of the East.—Revs. C. Cast, J. C. Hauser, M. Bachman, J. W. Ebbinghaus, and G. Facius.

From Mercersburg Classis.—Elders J. Heyser, and A. B. Wingerd.

From Maryland Classis.—Elder Wm. A. Rodenmayer.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of the following ministers, residents of Baltimore, was announced from time to time, during the sessions of Synod, viz.:

Revs. A. M. Courtney, L. M. Gardner, F. L. Bishop, and T. L. Poulson of the Methodist Episcopal Church; Rev. Dr. Murkland, Rev. Dr. Lefevre, and Rev. R. L. McMurrin of the Presbyterian Church; Rev. J. C. Burk Walter of the Evangelical Lutheran Church; and Rev. B. W. Bond of the Methodist Episcopal Church South.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. John A. Peters was chosen *President*.

Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*.

Rev. J. S. Kieffer was elected *Corresponding Secretary*.

Elder Louis Markell was re-elected *Treasurer*.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The reading of the Rules of Order was dispensed with for the present annual meeting. The Synod then defined the Bar of the House, in accordance with the Rules of Order.

The following hours were fixed upon for the opening and closing of the current sessions of Synod, viz.:

The daily session to open at 9 o'clock, A. M., and close at 1½ o'clock, P. M. No afternoon sessions were held. Evening sessions were held on Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday evenings.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The President appointed the following Standing Committees, viz. :

Religious Services.—Revs J. T. Rossiter, D. Gans, J. Kretzing, and Elders C. A. Shultz, and W. Neff.

Minutes of Synod.—Revs. W. M. Deatrick, W. Goodrich, A. Wanner, and Elders D. Zeller, and S. Schwartz.

Overtures.—Revs H. St. J. Rinker, A. C. Geary, S. S. Miller, and Elders J. Shifler, and E. Krone.

Minutes of Classis.—Revs. W. C. Cremer, N. H. Skyles, C. G. Fisher, and Elders G. S. Griffith, and J. P. Reed.

Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.—Revs. G. W. Glessner, J. W. Santee, I. S. Weisz, and Elders I. H. Keefer, and P. B. Mikesell.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports.—Revs. J. S. Kieffer, J. Ault, E. N. Kremer, and Elders L. Markell, and J. B. Resser.

Missions.—Revs. J. O. Miller, J. H. Sykes, M. L. Shuford, and Elders H. Hartzel, and C. M. Keedy.

Finance.—Revs. E. R. Eschbach, A. J. Heller, H. Tallhelm, and Elders C. Young, and D. S. Firor.

Nominations.—Revs. S. N. Callender, A. C. Whitmer, H. Wissler, and Elders J. Hager, and G. Frank.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Mercersburg, Zion, Maryland, and Virginia were received, and referred to the Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports, which were referred to the Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was read, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions of the three District Synods of the United States, Pittsburgh, and Potomac, were received, severally read, and referred to the Committee on Missions.

4. Eight other Communications were received, and referred to the Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following Religious Services, viz.:

1. All the sessions were opened and closed with suitable religious services.

2. The Committee on Religious Services reported, as follows, which was received and adopted:

The Committee on Religious Services submit the following as their report, viz.:

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD, IN FIRST REFORMED CHURCH.

Thursday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. G. H. Johnston.

Friday Evening.—Synodical Sunday-school Board's services, conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith, member of the Sunday-school Board. Addresses by Revs. I. S. Weisz and A. J. Heller, on the Necessary Qualifications of the Sunday-school Superintendent and Teacher; Revs. J. W. Santee and J. H. Sykes, on the Missionary Aspect of the Sunday-school Work; and Revs. A. C. Whitmer and T. F. Hoffmeier, on the Relation of the Sunday-school to the Catechetical Class.

Saturday Afternoon.—Services preparatory to the Holy Communion: sermon by Rev. S. N. Callender, assisted by Revs. J. S. Kieffer and T. F. Hoffmeier.

Sunday Morning.—Celebration of the Lord's Supper: sermon by Rev. Dr. Higbee, assisted by Revs. J. A. Peters, S. S. Miller, W. M. Deatrick, and C. G. Fisher.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school services. Addresses by Revs. A. C. Whitmer, and W. R. H. Deatrick.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. E. R. Eschbach.

Services in St. Paul's Reformed Mission on *Thursday Evening*.—Sermon by Rev. J. O. Miller.

Sunday Forenoon.—Sunday-school addresses by Revs. J. W. Santee, and J. A. Hoffheins.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES.

Third Reformed Church.—*Friday Evening* Preparatory services: sermon by Rev. J. Ault. *Sunday Morning*: Sunday-school addresses to Sunday-school by Revs. J. C. Bowman, I. S. Weisz, A. C. Geary, and W. E. Krebs. *Sunday Morning*, Holy Communion: sermon by Rev. Dr. Kremer.

Fourth Reformed Church (German).—*Sunday Morning*: sermon by Rev. J. D. Zehring.

Fifth Reformed Church (German).—*Sunday Morning*: sermon by Rev. A. Wanner. *Sunday Evening*: sermon by Rev. A. Spangler.

Sixth Reformed Church (German).—Sunday Evening: sermon by Rev. R. R. Smith.

High Street M. E. Church.—Sunday Evening: sermon by Rev. I. S. Weisz.

Eastern Avenue M. E. Church.—Sunday Evening: sermon by Rev. C. G. Fisher.

Greenmount Avenue M. E. Church.—Sunday Morning: sermon by Rev. W. I. Stewart.

Holland Street M. E. Church South.—Sunday Morning: sermon by Rev. J. Kretzing. Sunday Evening: sermon by Rev. J. M. Schick.

Third Lutheran Church.—Sunday Morning: sermon by Rev. D. N. Dittmar.

City Jail.—Sunday Afternoon: sermon by Rev. M. H. Sangree.

Maryland Penitentiary.—Sunday Afternoon: addresses by Revs. C. S. Gerhard, S. N. Callender, and W. Goodrich.

St. Stephen's Reformed Church of Washington City.—Services by Revs. J. S. Kieffer and G. L. Staley.

Respectfully submitted,

J. T. ROSSITER, *Chairman.*

The religious services, as appointed by the Committee, were several-ly observed.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting publicly by Synod was dispensed with, and the printed Minutes of last year were referred to the Committee on Minutes of Synod, to report the items of unfinished business claiming the attention of this meeting.

Subsequently, the Committee on Minutes of Synod submitted the following report, which was received, considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows, viz. :

Your Committee, to whom were referred the Minutes of Synod for last year, beg leave to report the following items of unfinished business requiring the attention of the present sessions of Synod, to wit :

Item 1, page 32. An apportionment for Home Missions is made upon the respective Classes of Synod.

Item 2, page 32. An appropriation of Five Hundred Dollars is made to the Missionary Board of Iowa Classis for missions within its limits, and also a like sum to the missionary work in the bounds of the Virginia Classis.

Item 3, page 34. The terms of office of Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrich and Elder G. S. Griffith as members of the Board of Missions expired October 1st, 1877. It will be necessary for this Synod to elect two members to fill their places in the Board.

Item 4, page 36. An assessment for Contingent Fund of Synod is made upon the several Classes.

Item 5, page 36. A deficit in the amount needed to refund the Two Thousand Dollars borrowed for the immediate Relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board, as authorized by the Synod of Winchester, is reported.

Item 6, page 37. The term of office of Rev. S. N. Callender as a member of the Board of Trustees will expire January 1st, 1878. Synod is required to elect a member to take his place in said Board.

Item 7, page 38. The term of service of Rev. J. W. Santee as a member of the Sunday-school Board ends at this meeting of Synod. It will be necessary for Synod to fill the vacancy.

Item 8, page 38. The action of the Synod of Winchester, making it the duty of the Sunday-school Board either to prepare, or have prepared, a Manual, giving a concise, practical, and popular account of the general idea and scheme of the Church Year, with specific detailed statements of the significance of the separate days and seasons, and the logical order of thought contained in them, is re-iterated.

Item 9, page 38. Friday Evening of the present sessions of Synod is set apart for the specific purpose of considering the work and interests of the Sunday-school cause.

Item 10, page 39. The Classis of North Carolina is commanded and enjoined to desist from the use of any other Hymn Book by her congregations than those already allowed, until the General Synod grants such permission.

Item 11, page 39. The Stated Clerk is instructed to communicate the foregoing action of Synod forthwith to the President of said Classis.

Item 12, page 40. The Stated Clerk is instructed to have Twelve Hundred and Fifty copies of the Minutes of the last annual sessions published, and distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

Item 13, page 41. The Synod earnestly recommends the Classes to make renewed efforts to increase the circulation of *The Messenger*.

Item 14, page 41. The Reformed Church Publication Board is requested so to prepare its financial statements as to show clearly the actual loss or gain, during each current year.

Item 15, page 47. The Special Committee, appointed by the Synod of Hanover, to prepare and publish, in conjunction with a similar Committee from the Synod of the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church" *with music*, is continued.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK,
WM. GOODRICH,
A. WANNER,
D. ZELLER,
SOLOMON SCHWARTZ,
Committee.

For the action of Synod on items 1, 2, and 3, see Article XIV., Missions; on items 4, 5, and 6, see Article XV., Finance; on items 7, 8, and 9, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; on 10 and 11, see Article XIX., Church Government; and on items 12, 13, 14, and 15, see Article XX., Publication.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Committee on Overtures submitted their report, which was received, acted on item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows, viz.:

Your Committee on Overtures begs leave to present the following report:

Item 1. The Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board, for the year ending October 1st, 1877, accompanied by an itemized and summarized statement of its financial condition.

Item 2. The Report of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., in which the Board, through its officers, makes sundry suggestions to this Synod, for its consideration: and accompanying this Report is the Treasurer's account, exhibiting the financial condition of the Institution.

Item 3. The Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

Item 4. A communication from Rev. F. Fox, Secretary of the Classis of San Francisco, notifying the Synod of the fact, that said Classis had failed to hold any meeting during the last Synodical year, in consequence of Rev. L. C. Edmonds being in the east at the time appointed for the annual meeting of the Classis, together with the heavy expenses that would necessarily have to be incurred by those members living in the State of Oregon, in order to go to Stockton, California, the place of meeting.

Item 5. A letter from Rev. J. Gantenbein of Portland, Oregon; 1st, asking to be excused for non-attendance upon the present meeting of Synod; 2nd, pleading most earnestly and piteously for payment of what is due him, for past services, by our Missionary Board.

Item 6. A paper from the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the United States, directing the attention of the Synod to the subject of its ratio of representation in the Boards of Trustees and Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

Item 7. An appeal, from the Second Reformed Church of Hagerstown, Md., for aid in support of its pastor.

Item 8. A communication from a Committee of the Maryland

Classis, requesting the aid of this and the two other Eastern Synods in the establishing of an English Reformed Church in the City of Washington.

Respectfully submitted,

HY. ST. J. RINKER,
SIMON S. MILLER,
JOHN SHIFLER,
EMANUEL KRONE,
Committee.

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article XX., Publication; on items 2, 3, and 6, see Article XIII., Education; and on items 4, 5, 7, and 8, see Article XIV., Missions.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes presented their report, which was received, disposed of item by item, amended, then adopted as a whole, and is as follows, viz.:

Your Committee on the Minutes of Classes submit the following as their report:

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. North Carolina Classis failed to furnish the Synod with a copy of its Minutes for the past Synodical year.
2. San Francisco Classis failed in the same particular.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

None.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

1. Rev. A. Spangler complains to Synod of the action of Zion's Classis, in regard to the restoration of F. E. Vandersloot to the Holy Ministry.
2. Elder A. H. Addams complains to Synod of the action of Zion's Classis in regard to the deposition from the Holy Ministry of O. L. Ashenfelter, and his expulsion from the Communion of the Church.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

Zion's, Maryland, Mercersburg, and Virginia Classes have taken favorable action upon the following subjects: Home Missions, increased circulation of *The Messenger*, Orphan's Home, and Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED, AND DISMISSED.

1. Zion's Classis received licentiate E. Garver Williams from the Philadelphia Classis, and ordained him; received Rev. Solomon B. Schafer from the Mercersburg Classis, Rev. J. Marion Mickley from the Tuscarawas Classis, and Rev. Amos H. Kremer, D. D., from the Lancaster Classis, Synod of the United States; dismissed Rev. James I. Good to the Philadelphia Classis; restored F. E. Vandersloot to the Holy Ministry; and deposed O. L. Ashenfelter from the Christian Ministry, and expelled him from the Communion of the Church.

2. Maryland Classis licensed George M. Zacharias; ordained the licentiate Charles H. Coon; received Rev. Ambrose C. Geary from the Mercersburg Classis, Rev. Anthony Shulenberger from the Iowa Classis, Rev. John G. Noss from the Philadelphia Classis, Rev. William Rupp from the Somerset Classis, and Rev. Jonas B. Shontz from the East Susquehanna Classis; and dismissed Rev. John M. Souder to the Allegheny Classis.

3. Mercersburg Classis licensed Henry S. Garner and John M. North; ordained the licentiate David W. Ebbert; received Rev. William A. Gring from the Maryland Classis; dismissed Rev. Solomon B. Schafer to the Zion's Classis, Rev. Samuel R. Bridenbaugh to the Somerset Classis, and Rev. Harrison H. W. Hibshman to the East Pennsylvania Classis.

4. Virginia Classis licensed and ordained Barton R. Carnahan.

5. North Carolina Classis

* * * * *

6. San Francisco Classis: No change.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

1. Zion's Classis will meet at Blain, Perry County, Pa., on Saturday, June 1st, 1878, at 8 o'clock, A. M. Rev. I. S. Weisz, D. D., *President*, and Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*.

2. Maryland Classis will meet at Mechanicstown, Frederick County, Md., on Friday, May 31st, 1878, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. E. R. Eschbach, *President*, and Rev. S. S. Miller, *Stated Clerk*.

3. Mercersburg Classis will meet at Bedford, Bedford County, Pa., on Thursday, April 25th, 1878, at 7 o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. Hassler, *President*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*.

4. Virginia Classis will meet in St. Michael's Church, Rockingham County, Va., on Friday, May 31st, 1878, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. S. Loose, *President*, and Rev. H. St. John Rinker, *Stated Clerk*.

5. North Carolina Classis will meet in Mount Zion Church, Rowan County, N. C., on Thursday, May 23rd, 1878, at _____ o'clock .
 Rev. _____, *President*, and Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*.

6. San Francisco Classis will meet in Stockton, California, on Saturday, June 1st, 1878, at 8 o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. H. Krueger, *President*, and Rev. F. Fox, *Stated Clerk*.

Respectfully submitted,

W. C. CREMER,
 N. H. SKYLES,
 CHARLES G. FISHER,
 JNO. P. REED,
Committee.

The items were severally adopted, with the exception of those under the heading of *Appeals* and *Complaints*; for Synod's action on which, see Article XVII., Complaints.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE and ORDINATION.

The Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination offered the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

The Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination would respectfully report, that no applicants for licensure came before the Committee for examination.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SANTEE,
 I. S. WEISZ,
 PETER B. MIKESSELL,
 I. H. KEEFER,
Committee.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports made the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Reverend Fathers and Brethren:—

The Committee on the State of Religion and Morals would respectfully present to this Synod the following report. They have received and carefully considered the reports on the state of religion laid before this Synod

by the several Classes belonging to it, and have taken into consideration also, whatever facts they were able to observe that might directly or indirectly assist them in accomplishing their object; notwithstanding which, they feel very great diffidence in pronouncing judgment upon so grave a subject.

The reports that have come before us from the Classes are, in the main, of an encouraging nature. From them we learn that the work of the Gospel has, during the past year, been carried regularly and faithfully forward in the congregations under the care of this Synod; that there has been, for the most part, a diligent and faithful use of the means of grace by the members of the Church; that children and youth have, according to the custom of the Church, been carefully instructed in the doctrines and duties of our holy religion; that the increase of the membership of the Church, while by no means exceptionally large, manifests a reasonable degree of healthy growth and progress; that, in general, the people have walked worthy of their vocation as Christians; that there has been increased interest and activity in the Sunday School work; that dissension has been well-nigh unknown within our bounds, and such a degree of peace and harmony has prevailed as ought to be favorable in the highest degree to spiritual growth.

It is, without doubt, exceedingly gratifying to the Synod, to receive these accounts of the spiritual growth and prosperity of its congregations. Respecting the points upon which these reports chiefly dwell, we are convinced that there has been no overstatement. We are satisfied that, in general, the state of religion, within the bounds of this Synod, has been good; that there has been a vast amount of earnest, humble and self-denying labor, for Christ's sake, on the part of Pastors, Elders and Deacons, as also of the Professors in our institutions of learning; and that this activity has been blessed by God to the spiritual good of the thousands of Christian people under our care.

Partly, however, from the reports themselves, and partly from such a general survey of the state of religion in the Synod, as various circumstances have enabled us to take, the Committee have received impressions, which it would be unfair not to set forth side by side with those already presented. It will hardly be questioned by any one at all familiar with the affairs of this Synod, that, while there is much to be thankful for, there is much, also, that ought to awaken our very serious anxiety and concern. It is possible, to some extent, to infer the state of religion in the Synod from the condition of the manifold works which it is carrying forward for the advancement of Christ's kingdom. A sound and vigorous piety will naturally reveal itself in the earnestness and vigor with which such works are prosecuted; while any languishing in this respect would seem to indicate a corresponding weakness in the religious life of which these movements are the utterance. Judging in this way, we are of the opinion and must in this report express the opinion, that the state of religion in our midst is far less prosperous than we ought to expect. The sacred work of missions languishes; the cause of Christian education is more or less neglected; our institutions of learning, so worthy of our confidence and support, are but poorly supported; of scarcely any work in which this Synod is engaged can it be said that it is vigorously and successfully carried forward. No one, we suppose, would claim that the present condition of Christian work in this Synod corresponds, in any high degree, to the bright anticipations and hopes which its founders and friends cherished for it at the time of its organization. On the contrary, there seems to be a pause in its onward march; a languor in the religious life of the congregations; a dearth of those noble deeds of Christian ser-

vice, those noble acts of Christian liberality, which are scarcely ever altogether wanting where piety is in a thriving condition. This state of affairs is, without doubt, due, in large part, to causes of such a nature that it would be great injustice to regard it as a necessary indication of a lack of true religion. But, making all due allowance for this, we are of the opinion that it does, to some extent, indicate a low degree of piety and devotion. If this be so, we ought to have the candor to acknowledge it; we need to humble ourselves for it; and, as we may sing a hymn of thanksgiving over what God has done for us, and what He has enabled us to do for Him, we must chant a sorrowful psalm of penitence, also, over our want of Christian love, and our lack of earnestness in Christian work.

The best remedy for this evil, so far as the evil exists, we believe to be, not so much in directly endeavoring to correct it at this point or that, as, indirectly, in laboring with all the energy we possess, and praying with all the faith we can summon, for the development, in ourselves and in our people, of a larger and nobler type of Christian character. The greatest danger to which we are now exposed we believe to be that of coldness and apathy with respect to this most important practical matter. And this danger is, in our opinion, an indirect and incidental result of a movement which has itself been an inestimable blessing to the Church. We have passed through a stage in our history as a Church, which has been chiefly characterized by a profound interest in Christian doctrine, by earnest doctrinal investigation and discussion, and, to a large extent, by theological controversy. This movement resulted in giving us such a superior theology, such a noble view of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, as carries in itself, we believe, the power of untold blessing for the Church. It was accompanied, however, by the subtle danger of begetting, throughout the Church, a vicious appetite for discussion, a depraved thirst for controversy, an interest in doctrine, simply as doctrine, without sufficient reference to the supreme necessity of carrying forward to its proper results in the sphere of the practical Christian life whatever may have been gained in the sphere of doctrinal truth. This by no means uncommon danger, of being interested and active in respect of doctrine, cold, indifferent and slow in the work of moulding the religious life in accordance with the doctrine, our beloved Church has not altogether escaped. We need to remember that, whilst we have come, as it would seem, to the end of one important stage in our history, we have just come to the beginning of another equally important. It would be fatal to us to suppose (as we fear the Church has been in danger of supposing) that we have in any sense already attained, or may in any sense come to a pause in our work. On the contrary, our noble theology is but now fairly put upon its trial; and, little will it be worth to us, nay, for our own greater condemnation will the possession of it be, unless, in our hands, it prove to develope actually, as we believe it to have the capability of developing, a nobler type of Christian manhood and a more earnest and vigorous Christian activity. To see this danger, which we are convinced is no imaginary one, but one that has been very real and very near to us, and to put ourselves on our guard against it will be one of the first necessary steps, and will of itself go far towards bringing about a more healthy and prosperous condition of religion in our midst.

In concluding this report, your Committee would mention the fact that, within the past Synodical year, two of our brethren have fallen asleep: the Rev. David W. Kelley and the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Schneider. Both were faithful ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ. Dr. Schneider spent the greater part of his useful and honored life as a missionary in foreign lands. We mention the names of these brethren reverently and affectionately here;

and we know that it is the desire of Synod that we should express here its grateful sense of appreciation of their labors and services as ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ.

May God help us all! May He make us more faithful shepherds of the people, and build up us, and the people under our care, in the faith and hope of the Gospel, unto everlasting life, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

J. SPANGLER KIEFFER,
JOHN AULT,
ELLIS N. KREMER,
J. B. RESSER,
Committee.

(For Statistical Tables see Appendix.)

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Board of Education presented its annual report, which was received, and is as follows :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :—

Your Board, at its meeting in York, Pa., at the close of the last annual meeting of Synod, elected Rev. S. N. Callender, *President*, and Rev. I. G. Brown, *Secretary*. Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick was continued *Treasurer*.

The Board held a meeting in Mercersburg, last May, at the close of the session in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, and attended the examination of those students receiving theological instruction. The examinations, for the most part, proved very satisfactory to the Board. The Board also appointed its resident members a committee to attend the examinations of such beneficiary students, as are connected with the Collegiate and Preparatory Departments of the College. Those examinations took place in June, and in every instance displayed commendable progress on the part of our beneficiary students in College. They stand well in their respective classes.

The Board regrets, that owing to the protracted illness of Rev. Prof. J. B. Kerschner, no instruction could be given in Hebrew, during the past scholastic year, to such students as were studying theology. This want does not now exist, in-as-much as Prof. Kerschner, in the good providence of God, has been enabled to resume his duties, and is at present imparting instruction in the Hebrew language and Old Testament exegesis.

The Board, for its guidance, has adopted the following resolutions, viz. :

Resolved, That this Board will not receive under its care and supervision any student as a beneficiary, whose scholarship-grade, after a fair trial, does not, according to the system of grading scholarship in Mercersburg College, exceed that styled No. 3, or "Passable;" and, if at any time, the scholarship of a beneficiary student should fall to or below the aforementioned grade, he shall be discontinued as such.

Resolved, further, That whenever the average grade of scholarship of a beneficiary student does not at least equal the average class-grade of his particular class, he shall be solemnly admonished by the officers of the Board to increased diligence and faithfulness in his studies.

Resolved, still further, That whenever a beneficiary student, under the care of this Board, shall absent himself from his studies for more than one week, during the scholastic terms of the College, the Treasurer be instructed to deduct, in paying his stipend, a proportionate amount of his annual appropriation.

When the present Board was elected by the Synod of Winchester, it was for the term of three years. It is believed that this Synod ought to elect two additional members of the Board, thus making it to consist of nine members, instead of seven. The Synod should then order, that three of these should serve for one year, three for two years, and three for three years, and also instruct the members of the Board, so augmented, to determine among themselves their respective terms of service. In this way, the terms of office of three members would expire annually, and there would always remain in the Board at least a majority of those, who had one or more year's acquaintance with its workings.

During the last Synodical year, the Board had under its immediate care and supervision the following beneficiary students, to whom appropriations have been made by the respective Classes, to which they belong, to wit:

Mercersburg Classis:—Henry S. Garner, Isaac N. Peightel, Samuel C. Long, W. Wilberforce Deatrick, Samuel H. Eisenberg, Albert A. Black, Daniel H. Leader, George B. Resser, and Jonathan W. Miller.

Maryland Classis:—Louis F. Zinkhan, and Marion L. Firor.

Virginia Classis:—George A. Whitmore, and Samuel L. Whitmore.

The Board has taken under its care, during the past year, Christian W. Summey of Virginia, and Charles Irving Baker of Maryland. The Maryland Classis has promised the necessary funds to meet Mr. Baker's appropriation. And the pastoral charges of Revs. Dr. Miller and Dr. Ziebeck of Zion's Classis stand pledged for Mr. Summey's support for one year; after which the Virginia Classis is expected to support him.

In addition to those whose names have already been mentioned, the following theological students have been pursuing their studies under the care and direction of the several Classes of this Synod, viz.: George M. Zacharias, and Henry E. Cook at Lancaster, Pa., and Barton R. Canneh, John M. North, and Samuel T. Wagner at Mercersburg, Pa.

Messrs. Carnahan and North, having completed the full three years' course of theological instruction in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, were licensed to preach the Gospel, last May,—the former by the Virginia Classis, and the latter by the Mercersburg Classis.

Messrs. Zacharias, Zinkhan, and Garner having finished the full Seminary Course at Lancaster, have also been licensed. Mr. Garner was licensed by the Mercersburg Classis, Mr. Zinkhan by the Lancaster Classis, and Mr. Zacharias by the Maryland Classis.

At the present time, S. T. Wagner, I. N. Peightel, G. A. Whitmore, S. C. Long, M. L. Firor, W. W. Deatrick, S. H. Eisenberg, D. H. Leader, F. W. Brown, L. M. Hensell, and C. Gumbert are receiving theological instruction in the Post Graduate Department connected with Mercersburg College, and H. E. Cook in the Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

The Treasurer acknowledges the receipt of the following sums for Beneficiary Education, during the past Synodical year. The different pastoral charges are herein credited with the amounts contributed by them respectively; the aggregate paid by each, during the year being given, omitting the items and dates of payment, viz.:

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

<i>Mercersburg Classis.</i>	
Greencastle Charge.....	\$133.00
Waterstreet ".....	109.44
Bedford ".....	100.58
Chambersburg ".....	100.00
Mercersburg ".....	100.00
Friend's Cove ".....	84.00
Altoona ".....	83.00
St. Clairsville ".....	73.00
Mont Alto ".....	71.75
Everett ".....	60.00
St. Thomas ".....	58.50
College Church ".....	40.00
Greenfield ".....	24.94
Woodcock Valley ".....	14.26
Orbisonia ".....	24.00
Grindstonehill ".....	13.00
Woodbury ".....	12.50
McConnellsburg ".....	11.10
Sulphur Spring ".....	4.62
Middleburg ".....	3.32
Amount.....	\$1,121.01
<i>Maryland Classis.</i>	
Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick.....	\$117.00
Hagerstown Charge.....	80.80
Emmitsburg ".....	28.54
First Reformed Church of Baltimore.....	26.00
Glade Charge.....	24.00
Jefferson ".....	22.40
Westminster ".....	22.00
Mechanicstown ".....	20.50
Middletown ".....	20.00
Clear Spring ".....	16.00
Cavetown ".....	15.00
Mount Moriah ".....	14.25
Burkittsville ".....	12.50
Boonsboro ".....	11.02
Mount Pleasant ".....	6.25
St. Stephen's Church,.....	3.20
Amount.....	\$388.96
<i>Virginia Classis.</i>	
Cash per Treasurer.....	\$281.00
<i>Zion's Classis.</i>	
Trinity Church of York,.....	\$25.00
Hanover Charge.....	25.00
Amount.....	\$50.00
A Friend to the cause, Frederick, Md.....	\$100.00
Total.....	\$1,940.97

Contra. Cr.

By balance due the Treasurer, Oct. 17, 1876.....	\$ 15.08
By cash paid Beneficiaries of Mercersburg Classis.....	1,105.00
" " Maryland " 	315.00
" " Virginia " 	331.00
By cash paid interest on borrowed money.....	2.50
By postage, envelopes, revenue stamps, and discount.	3.00
By balance in Treasury,.....	169.44
Total	\$1,940.97

We hereby certify, that we have audited the account of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct. The foregoing synopsis is a faithful statement of the same. There is a balance in the Treasury of \$169.44, at this time.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 16, 1877.

J. HASSLER,
I. G. BROWN.

From the foregoing it will be seen that the small debt due the Treasurer, a year ago, has been liquidated, the stipends of the beneficiary students paid, and over one hundred and fifty dollars left in the Treasury. To God's name be the praise.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

The Report of the Board of Education was considered during the sessions of Friday and Saturday, and was approved, except in the following particulars. The Synod, in its judgment, adopted grade No 2½, instead of grade No. 3, styled "Passable," and midway between the last named grade and No. 2, which signifies "Poor," as the desired class-grade to guide the Board in its action, as contemplated in the first resolution of their Report. The Synod also disapproved of the deduction in the payment of the appropriations of the beneficiary students, as ordered in the third resolution of said Report, in case of absence.

The Synod ordered the Committee on Nominations to present a sufficient number of nominees to make the Board of Education consist of nine members instead of seven, which the Committee accordingly did. And at the election for members of the different Boards, held during Tuesday morning's session, Revs. Wm. C. Cremer and Wm. Goodrich were accordingly elected members of the Board of Education. Subsequently the Board met and determined the respective terms of service, as follows, viz.:

Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick,.....	3 years.....	October, 1880.
" J. S. Kieffer,.....	3 " 	" "
" J. W. Santee,.....	3 " 	" "
" J. A. Peters,.....	2 " 	" 1879.
" Wm. Goodrich,.....	2 " 	" "
Elder J. Heyser,.....	2 " 	" "
Rev. I. G. Brown,.....	1 year,.....	" 1878.
" Wm. C. Cremer,.....	1 " 	" "
" S. N. Callender,.....	1 " 	" "

The Annual Reports of the Board of Trustees, of the Treasurer, and of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., as reported by the Committee on Overtures, were severally read, and then referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. W. Goodrich, J. A. Hoffheins, T. F. Hoffmeier, and Elders L. Markell, and J. Stickle. The committee reported during Monday's session; their report was received, amended, and then adopted. These Reports are as follows:

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES.

To the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the U. S.

BRETHREN:—The Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary beg leave to submit their annual report to your Reverend Body, and ask for the suggestions herein contained your earnest consideration.

We regard ourselves as especially charged with the financial affairs of the Institution and hence our attention is mainly directed towards obtaining the means for its support. For a few years past by a judicious use of the funds, we have been enabled to realize from an interest bearing investment of say \$60,000, an income of about \$4,200, but for the past year this has been impossible, and will be impossible for years to come. Our income cannot exceed, say \$3,600, while the salaries and incidental expenses aggregate about \$4,300. To meet this deficiency it is the judgment of your Board, that it would be well for your Reverend Body to authorize us to use the income derived from the Building Fund. This sum, about \$700, will enable us to go forward without involving the Institution in debt; for it is our duty to state, that unless this is done, or some ACTUAL provision is made to increase its regular income, the Seminary will become involved to the amount of say \$700 annually.

For the information of Synod we may state, that a large proportion of the fund now known and carried along as Building Fund was originally subscribed for "Endowment or Removal." But while this would give us a clear right to pass the aggregate of such notes to the endowment fund, yet, in our judgment it is not best to pursue this course. We prefer to hold this fund intact and recommend, as already stated, that the interest only be used for the support of the Institution.

During the current year the Seminary has received but little towards its permanent endowment. More has been given for beneficiary education; and while we know that the members of the Church are free to give their money as they please, we think that they can be largely influenced by judicious counsel from the pulpit and by the utterances of Synod. We suggest, therefore, that the Pastors be requested to preach at least one sermon annually on the necessity for an educated ministry and for the support of the Seminary, and also to use their personal influence with those of their members who intend leaving legacies for benevolent purposes, to induce them to aid the endowment fund of the Seminary. We believe some good would be accomplished in this direction, if Synod would pass a minute on the subject, and direct its publication in the papers of the Church.

The Treasurer's report, herewith submitted, will explain the financial condition of the Seminary and of the various funds in our hands as a Board.

Respectfully submitted,

D. W. GROSS, *President.*

EDWARD J. ZAHM, *Secretary.*

II. REPORT OF TREASURER.

JOHN B. ROTH, TREASURER OF THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, IN ACCOUNT
WITH SMALTZ FUND.

DR.

Principal of Fund is.....	\$ 5,000.00
Oct. 1, 1877, for interest received to date.....	\$260 00
For balance due per Report of Oct. 17, 1876.....	54.39
	<hr/>
	\$314.39

CR.

Oct. 1, 1877, by sundry payments to date, per voucher..	\$325.00
" 1, 1877, balance due Treasurer.....	\$10.61

Building Fund of Theological Seminary.

Oct. 17, 1876, for amount of Fund reported to Board.....	\$11,480.50
" 1, 1877, " interest received to date.....	542.25
" 1, 1877, " 1st agency notes paid.....	127.79
" 1, 1877, " 2nd " " "	70.75
	<hr/>
	740.79
Oct. 1, 1877, total Fund.....	<hr/>
	\$12,221.29

Pittsburgh Synod Professor Fund.

Oct. 17, 1876, for amount of Fund reported to Board.....	\$ 1,501.59
" 18, 1876, " " " Rev. Abner Dale's bequest.....	100.00
Feb. 3, 1877, " " " A. Stewart's note paid.....	26.62
Oct. 1, 1877, " " " interest received to date.....	90.09
	<hr/>
	\$1,718.30

Library Fund of Theological Seminary.

Oct. 17, 1876, for amount of Fund.....	\$ 1,862.50
" 1, 1877, " sundry interests received to date.....	119 65
" " " balance due per report to Board.....	31.45
	<hr/>
	151.10

CR.

Oct. 1, 1877, by sundry bills paid per vouchers.....	47.20
Oct. 1, 1877, balance in hands of Treasurer.....	<hr/>
	\$103.90

Endowment Fund Account.

Oct. 17, 1876, for amount of Fund reported to Board.....	\$64,277.41
" 18, 1876, " " " Rev. M A Smith.....	17.00
Nov. 25, 1876, " " " Geo. P. Hartzell.....	15.15
Dec. 8, 1876, " " " D. B. Lady	50.00
" 27, 1876, " " " Geo. P. Hartzell.....	3.25
Jan. 3, 1877, " " " N. S. Strasburger.....	100 00
May 29, 1877, " " " Geo. W. Snyder.....	25.00
	<hr/>
	210.40

Oct. 1, 1877, total of Fund.....	<hr/>
	\$64,487.81

Of this Fund only about \$60,000 is interest bearing.

Current expense account of Theological Seminary from October 17, 1876, to October 1, 1877.

DR.

Oct. 1, 1877, for amount of interest received on sundry investments is..... \$ 3,997.56

CR.

Oct. 1, 1877, by sundry payments made per vouchers presented \$ 5,780.32

“ 1, “ balance due Treasurer..... \$ 1,782.76

“ 1, “ collectable interests due to date..... \$ 1,360.71

October 2, 1877, the foregoing account was carefully audited and found to be correct.

D. W. GROSS, *President*.

III. REPORT OF BOARD OF VISITORS.

To the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States,

RESPECTED BRETHREN:—During the year that closed in May last the operations of the Seminary were carried forward, as in previous years, peacefully and successfully. No interruption occurred in the regular course of study. Both professors and students were permitted to attend to their respective duties with comfort from the beginning to the close of the year. There was no occasion for the exercise of discipline, and, so far as the faculty were able to judge, no exception could be taken to the moral or Christian deportment of the students. They report that they made commendable progress in the prosecution of their studies, and that the prevalent tone of piety and religious earnestness had been as good as that of the previous year. The members of the Board, nearly all of whom were present at the annual meeting, were satisfied with the examination of the different classes, as showing diligence and progress on the part of the students. Whilst most of them had enjoyed the benefit of a previous classical culture, it was gratifying to the Board to learn that those who had not been favored with such advantages, had manifested all proper diligence to make up for such advantages by applying themselves the more earnestly to their studies. Some of the latter availed themselves of the opportunities offered to them in the college and attended the lectures of the college professors in order to make up for defects in their previous training.

At the meeting of the Board a standing rule was adopted, according to which the members of the Senior class will be required hereafter to prepare written Theses on some topic included in their theological course, and to hand them over to the Board of Visitors for examination and criticism some time previous to their final examination. It is believed that this arrangement will be useful in assisting the Board to form a correct estimate of the general culture of the students, whilst it will be of some advantage to them also in their studies.

The number of students on the roll of the Seminary was thirty-three, thirteen in the Senior, eleven in the Middle and nine in the Junior class.

The following new students entered the institution during the year and formed the Junior class: John N. Appel, Robert C. Bowling, Maurice Bowman, S. P. Penrose Brown, Calvin K. Christman, M. D., Thomas J. Hacker, Thomas S. Land, Silas F. Laury, and M. Dumstreya V. Rheinsberg. With one exception they all entered at the opening of the Seminary year. Four are graduates of Franklin and Marshall College, one of

a German Gymnasium, one of a Medical school in Philadelphia, and the other three pursued the special course provided for non-classical students.

The Senior class, having completed their studies and sustained a satisfactory examination before the Board, received the usual certificate of Dismissal and Recommendation for Licensure, with the exception of one, who not intending to apply for license in our Church, received a certificate of honorable dismissal. Their names are the following: A. Revallin Bartholomew, Tilghman R. Dietz, Nevin A. Fisher, Henry S. Garner, Henry Keller, Calvin Leinbach, Bloeadus S. Metzger, J. Alvin Reber, Chas. W. E. Siegel, Isaac S. Stahr, George M. Zacharias, Monroe P. Zeller and Louis F. Zinkhan.

Most of the members of this class have received calls to pastoral charges and are now engaged in the active duties of the ministry. Some however are still awaiting the call to enter their future sphere of labor. It is a significant fact that owing to the regular increase in the ministry from the different institutions of the Church during the past few years, the supply of ministers at the present time is in excess of the demand. This has never been the case to the same extent before this, we presume, since the organization of our Church as a denomination in this country. It is therefore a matter for gratitude and sincere congratulation, in view of the fact that God has heard the prayers of his people and sent forth laborers into his vineyard. It shows that the efforts of the Church in years gone by to supply our congregations with a suitable ministry have not been in vain in the Lord. But whilst we should be thankful, we ought to be on our guard now lest we slacken our efforts to provide for our spiritual destitutions. Our improved condition in this respect places us as a Church on vantage-ground and puts us in a position to be more aggressive than we have been enabled to be hitherto. It should therefore be regarded as a special call from on high to redouble our exertions to enlarge our borders, to lengthen our cords and to strengthen our stakes. There is much land for us yet to possess; the destitutions still are great and we are debtors both to the Jew and to the Gentile. Instead of allowing our zeal to provide laborers for the great harvest to abate, we should seek rather to refresh and strengthen it. The Lord himself will supply places within our bounds for all whom he calls to labor in his harvest fields.

It becomes our melancholy duty to report the death of brother, Dr. John Beck, a valuable member of our Board for many years, who fell asleep last April. The Board made a proper note of this sad event by placing a suitable minute of it on the records of its proceedings.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL,
Stated Clerk.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, AT LANCASTER, PA.

Your Committee to whom was referred the Reports of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary and Treasurer, and of Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary, would respectfully recommend the following for adoption:

1. *Resolved*, That while we do not know to what extent compliance with the request of the Board would in this case involve a diversion of the funds referred to, that it is our sense that no funds raised for building purposes, either principal or interest, should be used for endowment or Professors' salaries, or otherwise, nor ought funds raised for endowment be used for any other purposes.

2. *Resolved*, That the suggestion of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, for each pastor to preach on the necessity of an educated ministry, once a year, and that ministers and elders use their influence to awaken a deeper interest in the Seminary and if possible to procure legacies and funds for the Endowment Fund, be earnestly commended to the attention of the members of this Synod.

3. *Resolved*, That the report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary representing it as in a prosperous condition, is highly encouraging and a cause of devout gratitude to the great Head of the Church, on the part of this Synod.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

WM. GOODRICH,
JNO. A. HOFFHEINS,
T. F. HOFFMEIER,
LOUIS MARKELL,
Committee.

At the election held for members of the several Boards of Synod, Messrs. W. A. Wilt, A. B. Wingerd, L. Markell, H. Wirt, I. H. Keefer, and H. M. Cocklin were nominated for election by the Synod of the United States as members of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., to represent the interests of this Synod in said Board.

Revs. A. H. Kremer, J. O. Miller, E. R. Eschbach, and W. R. H. Deatrich were nominated for election by the same Synod, as members of the Board of Visitors from this Synod.

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, Mercersburg College, located at Mercersburg, Pa., is within the bounds of this Synod ; therefore be it,

Resolved, That the Synod extend its sympathy to the brethren in their good work, and commend the Institution to the favorable regard of her membership.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions were laid before Synod, read, and referred to the Committee on Missions. The letters of Revs. F. Fox and J. Gantenbein of the San Francisco Classis, so far as they refer to missionary matters, were also referred to the same Committee. The Committee reported at Monday Evening's Session, and their report was received and adopted. These Reports are as follows :

I. REPORT OF BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Potomac,

REV. FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—The Superintendent of Missions will furnish you with a detailed account of our united work for the Synodical year that has just closed. We as a Board desire to make the following additional statements of results, at the close of the first period of our joint work. And whilst we cannot present so flattering a statement of results as we desire to do, yet we feel assured that sufficient has been accomplished by this united working of Missions, by the three Synods, as to encourage us to continue the plan, with the hope of something better in the future. And with this conviction, at our last annual meeting, October 1st, 1877, we adopted the following resolution, namely:

“Resolved, That this Board recommends to the several Synods which created the Board, that the present Tri-Synodic union plan of missionary operations be continued.”

When we began this united work, or rather by the time we got into working order, the plan by which we proposed to do the work, the three Synods had assigned us, almost six months of the first year had elapsed. We started with an empty Treasury and had thirty-six missions placed under our care, located at different places across the entire continent, some of which missions, owing to peculiar circumstances, we have found difficult to manage to this day. And, by the time we had gotten into full operation, from four to five thousand dollars was due our Missionaries, *above the amount* that had come into our Treasury from voluntary offerings, whilst the amount needed to cover the current expenses of the first year was nearly \$13,000.

Besides this, it will be remembered that up to the time we began this united work, the Synods in the several sections of the Church had their Boards, and many of the Classes had the same; all of which was calculated to create confusion in the missionary work of the Church. Consequently there were many private claims first to be settled, and arrangements made before all could heartily enter into this work, whilst the unsettled financial condition of the country and the panic which soon followed increased our embarrassment.

These Synodical, Classical and local hindrances have, in a large measure, passed away by time and mutual forbearance, even if the financial condition of the country has not improved. And there is but one Classis in our three Synods now that does not co-operate with us. Another of the Classes of late has resolved to pay appropriations to the missionaries in her bounds *first* and then send us her surplus funds. Yet these brethren, we feel assured, will see, ere long, the wisdom of co-operating with the rest of the Church in this blessed work.

During these four years we have had forty-six missions under our care—some of them, however, for only a part of the time. Of these four have become self-supporting; nine, a year ago, were transferred to the Board of the German Synod, and three have been discontinued. We have received under our care during this time eleven new missions; so that now, after these transfers and discontinuances, we have still thirty missions remaining under the care of our Board.

We have reduced the expenses of the Board for the current year from that of \$13,000 for the first year, to \$9,330. And, although we have not so large a number, still we have as many promising missions as before. But for the financial embarrassment of the country, that interrupted our plans, we should not only be out of debt, but have occupied more territory,

that said "come over and help us." And yet we feel thankful to a kind providence, that we have been able to do what we did, in the face of the hindrances we had to encounter from within and without. We may ourselves have been to blame for some of these hindrances, but we are conscious at the same time that we have acted to the best of our judgment.

Much of the apportionments made by the Synods upon the Classes for missions, during these four years, remains unpaid; this neglect on the part of the Church, leaves us indebted to our missionaries about \$7,000. To this deficit we call your serious attention, and that of each of the Synods represented in this Board. And we earnestly entreat you to take measures at once to have this deficit collected, and paid as speedily as possible into the Treasury, in order that we may pay these servants of the Church their just dues, some of whom are suffering, and, in many instances, they need it for bread for their families.

We shall need for the purpose of carrying on our mission work, for the coming year, exclusive of the present indebtedness, \$9,330. And in order to meet this indebtedness, together with current expenses, we shall need \$16,330. If the full apportionment of last year only had been paid we should now be free of debt, and all our missionaries paid—and if the deficit on the appropriations, which the Synods made in 1874-5, were now paid into the Treasury we could continue all our missions for this year and not ask the Church for one dollar. The Synods may ask us to explain how came this debt, and how it continues to increase? Figures from the Treasurer's printed reports, and his present one, will reply for us. At the meeting of the Synods in 1873, when these plans of operations were adopted, no apportionment was made. At the end of that year the Treasurer reported \$8,164 received from the three Synods, and that \$4,000 was still wanting to pay the dues of the year then closed. In 1874 the Synods apportioned among themselves \$14,000, of which they paid, says the report, \$9,664, in which

The Synod of the United States fell short.....	\$1,273
The Synod of Pittsburg " "	1,275
The Synod of the Potomac " "	1,788
Total.....	<u>\$4,336</u>

In 1875 the Synods apportioned \$15,000, of which they paid to meet debt and expenses \$10,622,—deficit \$4,979, in which

The Synod of the United States fell short.....	\$2,509
The Synod of Pittsburg " "	1,233
The Synod of the Potomac " "	1,236

In 1876 the Synods again apportioned \$15,000, but of which to this date only \$7,997.57 has been paid—leaving a deficit of \$7,002.43.

Should the Synods secure the payment only of the apportionment of last year, the debt would be paid, and you would only have to provide for the \$9,330 for the current year. In the two years of 1875-6

The Synod of the United States fell back.....	\$3,782
The Synod of Pittsburg " "	2,508
The Synod of the Potomac " "	3,024
Total.....	<u>\$9,314</u>

Add to that \$7,002.43, deficit of this year, and you have \$16,326. This would pay all indebtedness and support the missions for the coming year. If you will provide for this by another apportionment, then we suggest

that the Synod of the United States assumes \$9,000, Pittsburg \$2,880, Potomac \$4,500.

If only one half of our communicant membership now in these three Synods, 81,309, would give at an average of 50 cents each this year for missions, we should have over \$20,000 for this cause.

The term for which the Superintendent was elected is about to expire. The Synods have made it our duty to nominate a successor. We have agreed unanimously to suggest to you the name of the Rev. Dr. Theodore Appel of the Synod of the United States to fill that office for the coming term.

And whilst we unite with all Christians in the prayer, "Lord, send more laborers into thy vineyard," we can not but add to our prayer "that our people may properly understand what is their duty, in regard to the missionary work of the Church, and have grace to give more liberally of their means, as God has prospered them. And unto His name be all the glory, in the Church, world without end. Amen."

J. O. MILLER, *President*.

W. H. H. SNYDER, *Secretary*.

II. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, the Pittsburg Synod, and the Synod of the Potomac,

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN:—At the close of another year of missionary work by our Synods, I hereby submit for your consideration a general statement in the way of report respecting the same.

SYNOD IN THE UNITED STATES.

Though this is the oldest Synod, the fruitful mother of the others, the home of the earliest and largest Reformed settlements in the land, yet it has now, and owing to its including so many large towns and cities within its territory, will likely continue to have a goodly proportion of the whole number of our missions within its bounds. During the year there were fifteen, all of them, with two exceptions, in cities or thriving towns.

Catasauqua, Pa.—John J. Christ, pastor. The late pastor of this mission Rev. A. B. Koplin after a number of years spent in hard and successful labor, accepted a call from the Hellertown charge. His successor finds, however, still much to do; has so far found favor with his people and the community. English and German. Appropriation, old, \$600; new, \$350.

Allentown, Pa.—*Christ Church*, Jared Fritzinger, pastor. This mission is but little more than a year old. It has been in large part a labor of love with its pastor. Its members have suffered from lack of work, and as times brighten, its prospects will doubtless brighten. Has a good Sunday school. German. Appropriation \$300.

Easton, Pa.—*Grace Church*, Daniel Y. Heisler, pastor. Growing in membership, consistence, and self-consciousness. English. Appropriation \$200.

Reading, Pa.—*St. John's*, John W. Steinmetz, pastor. This congregation has its large church and parsonage about completed. It is well-located, the only drawback to which is a heavy debt. Has been highly prosperous, and looks toward a useful and influential future. English and German. Appropriation \$400.

Shenandoah City, Pa.—Vacant. For several years past this mission was served by the Rev. E. D. Miller with great self-denial and a good degree

of success. The congregation is now supplied by a committee of Lebanon Classis. German and English. Appropriation \$300.

Philadelphia, Pa.—*St. John's*, J. Samuel Vandersloot, pastor. Steady, wisely directed work always been necessary in this mission. It labors under peculiar difficulties; and yet it has many valuable elements of strength in it, and undoubted opportunities of growth before it, if they can only be utilized. The present pastor has taken charge within the year, and it cannot yet be seen to what extent blessings will attend his labors. English. Appropriation \$300.

Wyoming, Del.—E. H. Dieffenbacker, pastor. The membership of this mission is growing. A visit to Caroline County, Md., has shown that most likely a congregation can be organized in that section, which might for some time, at least, be served by the pastor at Wyoming. For many reasons we believe that before long a separate charge may be formed on the Eastern Shore of Maryland, as many of our people are buying land in Kent, Queen Anne, Talbot and Caroline Counties. English. Appropriation \$300.

Harrisburgh, Pa.—*Second Church*, George W. Snyder, pastor. Nothing marked occurred in this mission during the year. It has a good location, a fine building, and an inviting future. English. Appropriation \$300.

Harrisburgh, Pa.—*Zwingli*, Wm. T. Gerhard, pastor. The late pastor, Rev. Moritz Noll, followed a call to Ohio in the early part of the year. Then came a long vacancy. The veteran Father Gerhard has now taken charge, and, judging from his success at Lancaster in a similar work, we may predict prosperity for this congregation. German. Appropriation \$250.

Columbia, Pa.—Conrad Clever, pastor. Congregation doing well. Growing internally in character and externally in membership. Appropriation, old, \$100; new, \$50.

Overton, Pa.—Vacant. German and English. Appropriation \$75. It should be supplied soon, or it will greatly suffer.

Wilkesbarre, Pa.—Vacant. The English mission in this place was organized under the name of Trinity last January. For a short time previous Rev. J. B. Shontz had been laboring here, and getting things ready for this event. He was liked by his people, and gathered a membership of some forty by spring, when, with the consent of the Executive Council he retired from the mission. The appropriation was at the rate of \$600.

Liverpool, Pa.—Willoughby Donat, pastor. This brother has done well. The field is now self-sustaining since June last.

Lock Haven, Pa.—*Church of the Resurrection*, Isaac S. Stahr, pastor.—Vacant from May to October. A German congregation, heretofore independent, located four miles from Lock Haven, has been received by West Susquehanna Classis, and connected with this mission. This necessitated the calling of a pastor who could use readily the English and the German language. Appropriation, old, \$400; new, \$300. As Superintendent I feel constrained to express my full conviction that the sum of \$300, appropriation to this mission, is entirely inadequate, and should be raised to \$400, at the earliest possible date.

Lansdale, Pa.—Supplied by a committee of Tohickon Classis in connection with the Superintendent of missions. The main part of the ministerial labor has hitherto been done by the Rev. Jacob Kehrm. The new church, a gem in its way, is finished. There has been a good work done here in unfavorable times.

Of these missions in the Eastern Synod one,—the Liverpool—has become self-sustaining during the year. Several of the others are almost at that point, while others again will need help for several years to come, and well deserve that help. Lansdale has not cost us any appropriation, and will doubtless be connected with a neighboring charge.

PITTSBURGH SYNOD.

By the organization of the German West Pennsylvania Classis out of the membership of this Synod, and the transfer of missions in the Eastern German Synod, the number of missions to the Pittsburgh Synod has been largely decreased. There are now *seven*; though, in addition to these, two of the Classes support each one or two weak charges with the missionary aid on their own responsibility.

Kittanning, Pa.—D. S. Dieffenbacher, pastor. Self-supporting since last June. Has been very prosperous. English.

Titusville, Pa.—J. Heberle, pastor. New life and energy seem to have come to this congregation. The pastor has a large field of usefulness, both in Titusville and in surrounding towns. German. Appropriation \$150.

Cumberland, Md.—F. R. Schwedes, pastor. This has come to be a solid interest. Besides the main congregation in Cumberland there is a branch congregation in Keyser city. German. Appropriation, old, \$350; new, \$300.

Scottdale, Pa.—Samuel Z. Beam, pastor. Mission in this place has been doing well. Ought, however, to be connected with some neighboring congregations to make it self-supporting within a reasonable time. English. Appropriation, old, \$250; new, \$200.

Allegheny, Pa.—*First Church*, Wm. F. Lichliter, pastor. This congregation has not always run a smooth course. It has had to contend with serious internal and external difficulties. These anterior to the coming of the present pastor. If this congregation, always self-supporting with the exception of a short period, is to be saved to the Reformed Church, all who are concerned with it, will have to act discreetly, energetically and with a liberal hand. English. Appropriation \$400.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—*Trinity*, J. M. Souder, pastor. Suffered from hard times, like many other missions. The pastor is liked by his people and looks hopefully to the future. English. Appropriation \$250, continued.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—*Zion's*, H. D. Darbaker, pastor. The number of members has been increased during the year. General harmony prevails. English. Appropriation \$300, continued.

Of the missions of the Pittsburgh Synod, here enumerated, one—that in Kittanning—has become self-supporting during the year. The others will need more or less continuous help for several years to come. They are all located in prominent places.

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

The missions of this Synod are *ten* in number. Generally speaking they have done well.

Duncannon, Pa.—U. H. Heilman, pastor. This charge has made progress during the year. The people of the congregations have commendably gone to work and aided the pastor, which fact has greatly encouraged him. English and German. Appropriation, old, \$300; new, \$250.

Winchester, Va.—Charles G. Fisher, pastor. A material improvement in this charge has been the purchase, on favorable terms, of a suitable parsonage. The mission has also otherwise made progress. English. Appropriation, old, \$350; new, \$250.

Orbisonia, Pa.—John M. Schick, pastor. In this mission, consisting of several small congregations, one new Church is building, and one old one purchased is undergoing repairs. Solid work has been done here. English. Appropriation, old, \$200; new, \$150.

Chambersburg, Pa.—*St. John's*, Carl Gundlach, pastor. A small congregation to which a number of members have been added during the year. German. Appropriation, old, \$100; new, \$75.

Sulphur Spring, Pa.—W. Augustus Gring, pastor. The brother laboring in this field is greatly encouraged. Future hopeful. English. Appropriation \$200, continued.

Washington, D. C.—*St. Stephen's*. Supplied by the Superintendent of missions for near two years, aided by a committee appointed by Maryland Classis. For more than a year past regular services every two weeks as a rule, except during the hot season. Organization made, amid much good feeling, on Sunday, October 7; one person confirmed, one received on profession of faith; and the Holy Communion, with goodly attendance, celebrated in the evening of the same day. The Board has resolved that the appropriation be \$1000; and that a missionary shall be commissioned as soon as a suitable man can be procured.

PACIFIC COAST MISSIONS.

San Francisco, Cal.—John H. Krueger, pastor. There are evident signs of life in the mission here. The people are subscribing for the relief of their church debt with the expectation of help from the East. Some members have also been added. Sunday-school in good condition. German. Appropriation, old, \$300; new, \$225.

Napa, Cal.—Frederick Fox, pastor. Not much change in this mission. The pastor has been heavily afflicted by the loss of his wife, who deserves kindest remembrance in this connection, inasmuch as she led a life of great usefulness to the mission itself. German and English. Appropriation, old, \$440; new, \$310.

Portland, Oregon.—John Gantenbein, pastor. Suitable lots for church and parsonage have been bought, and a chapel is in course of erection. It is expected that very little debt will remain after the chapel is completed. Thus the mission will get a prominent character. It is centrally located, also, for exerting an influence over other communities in the State. German. Appropriation, old, \$500; new, \$400.

Salem, Oregon.—J. Muellhaupt, pastor. The effort in this field has been to organize one or two congregations, toward which end fair progress has been made. The difficulties in the way are, however, also numerous—a fact not to be overlooked. The pastor has to undergo many privations. German. Appropriation \$300, continued.

SUMMARY.

Missions in Synod of the United States.....	15
" " Pittsburgh Synod.....	7
" " Synod of the Potomac.....	10
Total.....	32

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS

Iowa Missions.—There are several missions in Iowa Classis, maintained in part by funds coming from these Synods. As they are in no way under our control, we have no report from them.

Mission Territory.—I cannot let this opportunity pass without calling the attention of the Synods to the promising territory for founding mission congregations, which is more and more opening to the Reformed Church. Philadelphia, New York, Boston, Baltimore and Pittsburgh have an open door for us to enter. In each one, or its immediate suburbs, a new congregation could be organized at any time we chose to do it. Delaware, Eastern Maryland, and Virginia, are receiving a large influx of Reformed immigration from the older settlements. The same is measurably true of Tennessee; and very largely true of Texas, whither whole colonies from East Pennsylvania, for example, are going now, and many more are likely to go. We should lay hold of all these localities in good time.

Washington, D. C.—The English interest in this city, as elsewhere in this report noticed, has now obtained form under the name of St. Stephen's congregation, organized on Sunday, October 7th, 1877, with twenty odd members. Two elders and two deacons were elected, confirmation was had and the first Communion celebrated. Those acquainted with the facts know that much and long continued labor, patience and hopefulness were demanded to bring about this happy issue; *an event of more than ordinary consequence to our entire Church*

REFLECTIONS.

By the first of December next four years will have passed since our present Board of Missions officially and actively began its work. That was the term, too, for which the Superintendent was elected, and for which substantially unchanged the Board itself was to continue. *What did we find then?* A Mission Board in the two Eastern Synods, a Mission Board in the Pittsburgh Synod, and Mission Boards or committees acting as such in a number of the Classes. Furthermore, we found a debt of over \$5,000, owing by these several Boards and Classes, and a current expense account in the neighborhood of \$13,000 per annum, with an income considerable below it, and the missionary cause on the high tide to manifold embarrassments. To crown all, we stood at the threshold of a panic, unexampled, for sapping everything, in the history of our country. *And what have we done?* We have driven out of existence this wilderness of Mission Boards.

We have succeeded, after two year's effort, in getting all the Classes—except North Carolina—to co-operate with the Board of these Synods. This was one of the most difficult things in the history of our Church practically to accomplish; and, from indications, it will be found one of the most difficult things to keep accomplished in the future. Yet it is fundamental to all true, permanent success in the work.

We have reduced the running expenses from \$13,000 to a little over \$9,000 per annum, and support with this about as many promising missions as were supported with the original larger sum.

In a number of Classes the sum contributed for missions have been steadily rising; in others, they have been stationary; and in several they have fallen off, we are sorry to say, caused, however, it is said by the brethren in those Classes by extra severity of the times in their localities.

We have proved that the claims of the several Classes, and the claims of a General Board, can be harmonized by proper mediation, whenever that

mediation is allowed to come in, and its agreements are equally supported by both parties.

But—

Well, the present arrangement has left much undone. It has doubtless been guilty of sins of omission, and of commission, too. I presume no sensible person expected it to meet all wants and stop all woes in our missionary work. Four years are too short a period for that. Besides, the general plan, while I hold it, as a whole, to be the best by far we have hitherto inaugurated, has shown some serious defects in its workings, as might have been expected. The principal defect consists beyond all reasonable question, in the *accidental system of brakes*, as I might most expressively call it, external and internal, which has greatly obstructed its efficiency, and defeated some of the plainest ends it was intended to meet. And in any reconstruction that may be attempted, it should be borne in mind, that any cause having the limited propelling force of our missionary work cannot bear many brakes, multiplied checks. The object should be to eliminate them, wherever possible. Again, the vigorous carrying forward of our missionary operations demands a free, untrammelled executive head, to whom Boards are advisory, but the Synods alone are mandatory. Let it be the President of the Board; let it be a numerically small committee, selected wisely for the purpose; let it be a General Superintendent. Any of these, especially the first or last might and would do. But let it never be, if the work is to be done, any two or all three of them.

As with the expiration of my term of service, by the first of December, I intend to enter the ranks of our active pastors, I hereby thank the Synods for the confidence reposed in me and the general kindness bestowed upon me in the responsible position I have occupied.

Respectfully submitted,

F. K. LEVAN,

Superintendent of Missions.

III. REPORT OF TREASURER OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States:

I beg leave, most respectfully, to submit the following Report of the finances of the Board for the year ending October 8th, 1877.

RECEIPTS.

SYNOG OF THE UNITED STATES.

Classis of Philadelphia.....	\$ 385.84
“ “ Goshenhoppen.....	1,089.76
“ “ East Pennsylvania.....	253.19
“ “ Lebanon.....	1,290.66
“ “ Lancaster.....	594.67
“ “ West Susquehanna.....	338.38
“ “ East Susquehanna.....	424.13
Total from Synod of the United States.....	\$4,826.63

SYNOG OF THE POTOMAC.

Classis of Zion.....	\$ 670.13
“ “ Maryland.....	1,093.72
“ “ Mercersburg.....	882.63
Total from Synod of the Potomac.....	\$2,146.48

SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

Classis of Allegheny.....	\$ 120.00
" " Clarion.....	36.00
" " Somerset.....	275.40
From Treasurer of Synod.....	825.00
Total from Synod of Pittsburgh.....	\$1,256.40
From California Classis.....	9.80
" Miscellaneous sources.....	258.28
Balance in Treasury October 9, 1876.....	683.72
Total from all sources.....	\$8,631.29

DISBURSEMENTS.

Orders of the Board paid during the year	\$7,897.29
Amount paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis.....	163.16
Balance due the Board.....	570.84
	\$8,631.29

I have also received during the year the following named sums on account of subscriptions made to Rev. John Gantenbein for Church Extension on the Pacific Coast, viz.:

Tobickon Classis—From Rev. D. Rothrock.....	\$135.00
Lancaster Classis—From Mrs. Geo. Small, Harrisburg.....	\$57.37
" " " Reformed Salem Ch. "	50 00
" " " Geo. Z. Kunkle "	100.00
" " " Wm. H. Seibert "	50.00
	257.37
Total.....	\$292.37

This sum has been appropriated towards the payment of a lot of ground in Portland, Oregon, purchased by Rev. John Gantenbein.

Very respectfully submitted,

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

Harrisburg, Oct. 8, 1877.

Harrisburg, Oct. 9, 1877. I do hereby certify, that I examined the preceding account comparing it with the vouchers and found it to be correct—leaving a balance of five hundred and seventy dollars and eighty-four cents (\$570.84) in the Treasury.

D. W. GROSS, *Committee.*

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions begs leave to offer the following as their report:

We had placed in our hands the following documents for consideration, namely: a statement from the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, the Report of the Superintendent of Missions, the Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-

Synodic Board of Missions, a letter from the Rev. John Gantenbein of Portland, Oregon, and a letter from Rev. F. Fox of Napa, California. From these documents your Committee learn that although greatly embarrassed by financial pressure, the missionary work has been maintained during the past year. In consequence of the Church not coming up, especially during the past year to her appoitnments, the Board is largely indebted to the missionaries. They make an earnest appeal to the Synods for immediate relief for these suffering missionaries.

The Board had under their care during the past year thirty-one missionaries, ten of which were within the bounds of this Synod. They have received from the three Synods during last year \$7,739.51, and from other sources \$901 78; total \$8,631.29. They paid out \$8,060.45, leaving a deficit owing the missionaries of nearly \$7,000, to meet which there remains in the Treasury only \$570.80. This is a sad state of things when the Church is so able to meet all these claims and could so readily double this amount, if properly appealed to by our pastors, and those having charge of these matters. The Board need for current expenses of the coming year \$9,330, and to meet indebtedness \$7,000 more—a total of \$16,330.

The Board suggests to the Synods the continuance of the present plan for working our missions. They suggest further the name of the Rev. Dr. Theodore Appel of the Synod of the United States for the office of Superintendent for the coming term.

Your Committee suggest the following action :

1. *Resolved*, That the present plan for working our missions be continued.
2. *Resolved*, That the Rev. Dr. Theodore Appel, be and hereby is chosen to the office of Superintendent of Missions for the coming term
3. *Resolved*, That the pastors of our Churches be directed to make an appeal to their people for the relief of our missionaries.
4. *Resolved*, That this Synod apportion \$4,500 among the several Classes to meet the present indebtedness and current expenses of the Board.
5. *Resolved*, That this amount be apportioned among the Classes as follows; Maryland Classis, \$1,500; Zion's Classis, \$1,200; Mercersburg Classis, \$1,200; Virginia Classis, \$400; North Carolina Classis, \$200.
6. *Resolved*, That the letters of Revs. J. Gantenbein and F. Fox be referred to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions.

J. O. MILLER,
J. H. SYKES,
M. L. SHUFORD,
H. HARTZEL,
C. M. KEEDY,
Committee.

At the election for members of the several Boards of Synod, Rev. A. H. Kremer and Elder G. S. Griffith were elected members of the Synodic Board of Missions for the term of four years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF MISSIONS.

Rev. A. H. Kremer,	4 years,	October 1, 1881
Elder G. S. Griffith,	4 "	" 1, 1881
Rev. J. A. Peters,	3 "	" 1, 1880
" E. R. Eschbach,	3 "	" 1, 1880
Elder Henry Wirt,	2 "	" 1, 1879
Rev. J. O. Miller,	1 "	" 1, 1878
Elder Wm. A. Wilt,	1 "	" 1, 1878

The usual missionary meeting was held on Monday Evening, when several addresses were made, and a collection was lifted for the cause, amounting to \$26.31.

Items 1 and 2 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod, laid on the table at the time of acting on said report, until the Committee on Missions report, were then taken up, and it was found, that the apportionments for Missions had been only partly met by the Classes, as shown by the Treasurer's Report.

In this connection, the following resolution was adopted:

Resolved, That this Synod earnestly calls the attention of the Tri-Synodic Board to the Mission work in the Valley of Virginia, as a work which the Synod of the Potomac regards with special interest, hope, and love.

The application of the Second Reformed Church of Hagerstown, Md., as reported by the Committee on Overtures, item 7, was duly considered by the Synod, and the request was not granted, in consequence of the embarrassed state of its missionary funds, as well as on account of long missionary assistance rendered said congregation in former years.

The request to Synod, coming from a Committee of the Maryland Classis, as reported by the Committee on Overtures, under item 8, to aid in establishing an English Reformed congregation in Washington, D. C., was regarded with favor, and the interests of said mission were referred to the special consideration of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions.

The suggestion of said Committee, that the Synod of the Potomac, in conjunction with the Synods of the United States and Pittsburgh, pledge itself to raise, in the way of Church Extension, its proportion of the amount necessary for the securing of a lot and Chapel for the mission, was laid on the table until the next annual meeting of Synod.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his Annual Report, which was received, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows :

LOUIS MARKELL, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac :*

DR.

October 20, 1876, to balance, cash on hand.....	\$321.15
" 22, " to cash collection, missionary meeting.....	20.47
August 20, 1877, to cash received of North Carolina Classis.....	10.00
Sept. 8, " to cash received of Mercersburg Classis.....	65.00
October 4, " to cash received of Maryland Classis.....	60.00
" 18, " to cash received of Virginia Classis for 1876.....	20.00
" 18, " " " " " 1877.....	10.00
" 18, " " " " " " Zion's Classis.....	65.00
Making.....	\$571.62

CONTRA. CR.

October 22, 1876, by cash paid Rev Dr. Higbee, expenses of committee ..	\$ 5.25-
" 25, " by cash paid Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of Missions	20.47
" 27, " by cash paid Wm. D. Gross, Treasurer, assessment of General Synod.....	166.00
December 23, 1876, by cash paid for printing Minutes.....	165.00
" 23, " " " " Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk, expenses.....	13.50-
September 8, 1877, by cash paid Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk, salary.	75.00
October 18, " by balance, cash on hand.....	126.40
Making.....	\$571.62

On motion, it was,

Resolved, That the Treasurer of Synod be instructed to charge interest on all assessments made for Contingent Fund of Synod, if not paid on or before the first of August following the time of assessment.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Committee on Finance made the following report, which was received and adopted, viz. :

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report, that they have examined the Treasurer's Report, with its accompanying vouchers, and find it to be correct. There remains a balance in the Treasury of \$126.40. In order to meet the current expenses of Synod, and also provide in part for the

assessment of the next General Synod, which will meet next May, the Committee recommend, that the sum of \$285.00 be raised, and that it be apportioned among the several Classes, as follows :

Zion's Classis.....	\$ 80.00
Mercersburg Classis.....	80.00
Maryland Classis.....	75.00
Virginia Classis.....	25.00
North Carolina Classis.....	25.00
Making.....	\$285.00

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. ESCHBACH,
A. J. KELLER,
H. TALLHELM,
D. S. FIOR,
Committee.

Item 4 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod, laid on the table at the time of considering said Report, was then adopted, it having been learned from the Treasurer's Report, that all the Classes had paid their assessments for contingent purposes.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod presented their annual report to Synod, which was received and approved, and is as follows:

The Board of Trustees beg leave to report, as follows: Your Board held one meeting during the current year. The organization as it was effected last year was continued, viz., Rev. S. N. Callender being President, and Rev. E. R. Eschbach, Secretary.

Your Board regrets to report, that it has not yet succeeded in liquidating the debt incurred in effecting the loan of \$2,000, for the benefit of the Printing Establishment. It was the purpose of its agent, Rev. M. H. Sangree, to have completed his work in securing the funds necessary for the payment of this debt, during last summer, but the disastrous strike occurring just at the time, together with its attendant depression in the monetary world, discouraged the attempt under the then existing circumstances. The Board, at its meeting during the present sessions of Synod, urged upon him the importance of immediate effort in this direction, and he has consented to enter upon the work immediately, and it is the hope and expectation of your Board, that during the current Synodical year the whole remaining amount will be raised and paid over. During the past year the agent has succeeded in securing and paying over to the Treasurer the sum of \$320.28, reducing the present indebtedness to \$818.-87. A considerable portion of this is already covered by subscriptions and pledges, but some three or four hundred dollars must yet be raised in the way of new subscriptions to meet the want.

The term of service of Rev. S. N. Callender as member of the Board will expire January 1st, 1878.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER, *President.*

At the election held for members of the several Boards of Synod, Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrich was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrich,	.....5 years,	.....January 1, 1888
Lewis H. Steiner, M. D.,	.....4 "	" 1, 1882
Rev. J. O. Miller,	.....3 "	" 1, 1881
" E. R. Eschbach,	.....2 "	" 1, 1880-
Elder Louis Mankell,	.....1 year,	" 1, 1879

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes reported a Complaint to Synod by Rev. A. Spangler of the action of Zion's Classis, in regard to the restoration of F. E. Vandersloot to the Holy Ministry. The matter was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. A. R. Kremer, I. G. Brown, A. G. Dole, and Elders J. T. Motter and J. B. Resser, to examine whether the Complaint be in order, and, if found in order to report the manner in which it is to be taken up and tried.

The Committee subsequently submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

The Committee on the Complaint of Rev. A. Spangler against the action of Zion's Classis in restoring to the ministry, F. E. Vandersloot, beg leave to report, that in-as-much as the Complaint was not filed, there is nothing in the case on which this Synod can base any action.

Respectfully submitted,

A. R. KREMER,
I. G. BROWN,
A. G. DOLE,
J. TAYLOR MOTTER,
J. B. RESSER,

Committee.

COMPLAINT OF ELDER ALFRED H. ADDAMS.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes also reported a Complaint of Elder Alfred H. Addams against the action of Zion's Classis, in re-

gard to the deposition from the Holy Ministry of O. L. Ashenfelter, and his expulsion from the communion of the Church.

This subject was referred to a special committee, composed of Revs. S. N. Callender, M. H. Sangree, J. G. Noss, and Elders H. W. Roller, and D. Dunn, to inquire whether the Complaint be regular, and, if found so, to report a process of trial.

The Committee made the following report, during Monday Morning's Session, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Your Committee to whom was referred the matter of Complaint against Zion's Classis, in the case of the deposition of O. L. Ashenfelter, by A. H. Addams, beg leave to report, that they have examined the record in the case, and find that the Complaint is regular.

Your Committee recommend the following order in the hearing, to wit:

1. The reading of the record from the Minutes of Zion's Classis, and so much of the paper filed by the Complainant as contains his reasons of Complaint.

2. That the Complainant open and close the argument, and be allowed forty minutes in all, to be divided as he may elect.

3. That the respondent be allowed thirty minutes.

4. That after the conclusion of the arguments, each member of Synod may speak once not exceeding five minutes, after which the vote shall be taken on each reason of Complaint, sustained or not sustained.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER, *Chairman*.

The trial of the case was made the order of the day for Tuesday Morning's Session.

The case was taken up at the time designated.

The Minutes of Zion's Classis, bearing on the subject, were first read. After which the Complaint itself was read.

The Complainant then briefly opened the case. Rev. A. J. Heller, counsel for the Classis, followed in defense of the action of the Classis. The Complainant next addressed Synod for the allotted time. Subsequently several members of Synod availed themselves of the privilege to speak on the subject. After which the Synod voted separately on each reason or specification of Complaint, nine in number, and in every instance the Complaint was *not sustained*.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-School Board presented its fourth Annual Report, during Thursday's Session, which was received, amended, and adopted and is as follows:

REPORT OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Sunday-School Board of this Synod would offer its fourth annual

report, as follows: The work of the Board, during the past year, has been but little, and of a routine character, on account of the continued ill health of the President, Rev. W. K. Zieber.

The Board regrets that nothing has yet been done in the preparation of a Manual on the Church Year; but asks Synod to reiterate the instructions given two years ago.

The Board would suggest, that the SCRIPTURE LESSONS of the Reformed Church Publication Board, should be improved in the following particular. The Committee that prepares them should seek to unfold the Scripture lesson more fully by increasing, if necessary, the number of questions. It also recommends that a second series of lessons, adapted especially to young children and infant classes, connected with whatever in the form of illustration in the way of pictures, &c., be prepared by the Editor of the *Child's Treasury*, and published in the same.

The Board further suggests, that this Synod call the attention of the Reformed Church Publication Board to these recommendations.

The Board would also recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the Classes be requested to hold Sunday-school Conventions within their bounds, so far as practicable.

The following topics and speakers have been chosen for the stated Sunday-school service on Friday Evening:

1. The Necessary Qualifications of the Sunday-school Superintendent and Teacher.—Revs. I. S. Weisz and A. J. Heller.

2. The Missionary Aspect of the Sunday-school Work.—Revs. J. W. Santee and J. H. Sykes.

3. The Relation of the Sunday-school to the Catechetical Class.—Revs. A. C. Whitmer and T. F. Hoffmeier.

The Board would recommend that this service be conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith; that each appointed speaker be allowed ten minutes; and that a collection be taken up, the proceeds to be devoted to the Sunday-school cause as the Board may deem best.

The Treasurer reports, that \$13.50 remain in his hands for the use of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SANTEE,
A. C. WHITMER,
G. S. GRIFFITH.

At the election held for members of the different Boards, Rev. J. W. Santee was re-elected a member of the Board.

MEMBERS OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD.

Rev. J. W. Santee,	5 years,	October, 1882
" A. R. Kremer,	4 "	" 1881
" W. H. Zieber,	3 "	" 1880
Elder G. S. Griffith,	2 "	" 1879
Rev. A. C. Whitmer,	1 year,	" 1878

The Sunday-school meeting was held on Friday Evening as appointed, and the services took place agreeably to the programme of the Board.

Item 8 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod, laid on the table until the Sunday-School Board make their report, was then taken from the table, and the action of the Synod of Winchester in the case was re-iterated.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

According to item 11 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod, the Stated Clerk of Synod was instructed to communicate the action of Synod last year, commanding and enjoining the North Carolina Classis to desist from the use of any Hymn Book not already allowed, until the General Synod grants such permission. The Stated Clerk submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

The undersigned begs leave to report, that, shortly after the adjournment of the last annual meeting of Synod, he discharged the duty enjoined, by writing to the Rev. J. A. Foil, President of North Carolina Classis, and furnished him with a full extract of the proceedings in the case.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

Item 10 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod, laid on the table until this stage of the Synod's proceedings, was then taken up, and the following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, The Minutes of the North Carolina Classis are not at hand,

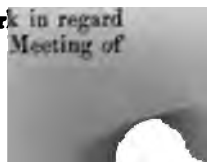
Resolved, That action on this item of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod be postponed until the next annual meeting, and that the North Carolina Classis be commanded to give the Synod official information in regard to their action in the case.

The Corresponding Secretary was instructed to write to the Stated Clerk of the North Carolina Classis, and inform him that Synod requires him to send forthwith a copy of the Minutes of said Classis for the past year to the Stated Clerk of Synod.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk in regard to the publication of the Minutes of the Fourth Annual Meeting of Synod, and was adopted.



REPORT ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report, that he had twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the Fourth Annual Meeting of the Synod published, agreeably to the instructions of Synod, and distributed them according to the directions of your Reverend Body. He greatly regrets that a number of typographical errors occur in the Minutes. They were corrected in the proof sheets, but the printer, nevertheless, allowed them to remain uncorrected. They do not, however mar or destroy the proper sense of the Minutes as published. They are annoying, and, to say the least, are an eye-sore to one desiring exactness.

The Minutes were printed by Messrs. Grant, Faires, and Rodgers, Printers for the Reformed Church Publication Board, as ordered by Synod, and at a cost of \$165.00, which has been paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have fifteen hundred copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, published, and distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

Item 1 of the Committee on Overtures, consisting of the Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board, for the year ending October 1st, 1877, accompanied by an itemized and summarized Statement of its financial condition, was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. A. H. Kremer, J. W. Santee, E. R. Eschbach, and Elders J. P. Reed, and A. R. Schnebly.

This Committee submitted its report during Saturday's Sessions, which was received, discussed at length, adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

I. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD OF THE REFORMED CHURCH IN THE UNITED STATES,

For the year ending October 1st, 1877.

To the Synods of the Reformed Church in the United States, Pittsburgh, and the Potomac :

The Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully submits the following Annual Report :

The Board has held four meetings during the year, and given close attention to the work entrusted to it. Though the continued financial pressure in all business circles in the country, has borne heavily upon the Board, in common with others, and interposed many obstacles in the way of securing the desired results, yet, on the whole, the year has not passed without affording some encouraging results, and giving more or less promise of still greater improvement in the future.

Proposals were received at the first meeting held in December, 1876, from different parties, for doing the printing of the Board during the year 1877, and the contract given to the lowest and best bidder ; and provision has been made for soliciting similar proposals for the year 1878.

The new Charter, a copy of which was submitted to the Synods at their last annual meetings, has passed through the Court, to which such matters

are submitted, and obtained full legal sanction. The Board has formally adopted it, and has since been acting under its provisions. The third Section of the Charter commits to the several Synods represented in the Board, the duty of determining the number of Trustees who shall constitute the Board, and the time, manner, and order of their succession, provided that no more than one-third of the Trustees shall be removed in any one year, and that at least two-thirds shall at all times be citizens of the State of Pennsylvania. With a view to facilitate the work involved in this duty, the Board has deemed it proper, after a careful consideration of the subject, to suggest to the several Synods, the mutual adoption of the following arrangement, and the carrying of it into immediate effect:

"The Board shall be constituted of seven members, distributed amongst the three Synods as at present, and the term of service for which each shall be elected, be four years. They shall be chosen in the following order: At the present meetings of the Synods, one member shall be elected by each of the Synods of the United States and Pittsburgh; at the meetings of the following year, one member shall be elected by each of the Synods of the United States and of the Potomac; at the meetings of the year next ensuing, one member shall be elected by each of the Synods of Pittsburgh and the Potomac; and at the meetings of the still ensuing year, one member shall be elected by the Synod of the United States; and the same order shall be observed in all succeeding years, the vacancies occurring being stated in the annual report of the Board to the Synods. The members of the present Board shall retain their places until they are succeeded in the order here laid down."

As rumors had, in some way, obtained currency, seriously questioning the solvency of the financial condition of the Board, and exerting an influence damaging to its interests, the Board, with a view to ascertain what are the real facts in the case, appointed a committee, consisting of one member from each of the Synods represented in the Board, at its meeting in July last, to whom was assigned the duty of meeting at the Publication Rooms on Tuesday morning previous to the regular closing quarterly meeting of the Board, held on Thursday evening, October the 4th, and examining into the condition of the Establishment; and then to report the result of their investigations to the Board. This committee attended to the duty assigned it, and made the following report, which was unanimously adopted:

"The undersigned committee appointed by the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, for the purpose of examining into the condition of said Board, respectfully beg leave to submit the following report:

Your committee met at the Rooms of the Publication Board on Tuesday, October 2nd, 1877, and after a full and careful investigation of the Liabilities and a fair and just valuation of the Assets of the Board, find the following result:

ASSETS:	
Real Estate,.....	\$35,000.00
Other assets as per subjoined statement.....	46,491.00
	<hr/> \$81,491.00
LIABILITIES:	
Mortgage on real estate.....	\$20,000.00
Other liabilities as per subjoined statement.....	29,606.83
	<hr/> 49,606.83
Assets over liabilities.....	<hr/> \$31,884.17

In examining the printed matter on hand, your committee find a large amount, which has been ordered by Synod, at different times, but which still remains on hand and is unsaleable, and from this source, a considerable amount of loss has been sustained by the Board.

It is a source of pleasure for your committee to report, that, in examining the stock of books, stationery, &c., on hand, we find it in great part fresh, saleable, and in good order, reflecting much credit upon Mr. Charles H. Taylor, the present efficient Business Agent.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

GEO. W. HENSEL,
B. WOLFF, Jr.,
A. B. WINGERD,
Committee.

The subjoined statement referred to by the committee is found in the general statement of the operations of the Board during the past year and of the present condition of the establishment, submitted to the Board by the Superintendent, which accompanies this document, together with a full itemized statement of the particulars, which make up the several items contained in the general statement. This general statement, besides giving the assets and liabilities of the Board, furnishes the following summary of the receipts and disbursements for the year :

Receipts.....	\$34,479 16
Disbursements	36,377.86

Excess of disbursements.....	\$ 1,898.20
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Treasurer's advances October 1, 1876.....	\$12,357.40
Add excess of disbursement.....	1,898.20

Total advances October 1, 1877.....	\$14,255.60
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By an examination of the accompanying papers, it will be seen, that there has been during the year, an increase in the number of subscribers over discontinuances, to "The Messenger," three hundred and sixty-eight; "Guardian," one hundred and twenty; "Review," eight, and "Lesson Papers," one thousand and seventy-five; and a decrease in the number of subscribers to the "Child's Treasury" of one hundred and seventy-nine. In the receipts on account of the "Child's Treasury," "Lesson Papers," and "Review," there has been an encouraging advance, over the previous year; but in those on account of the "Messenger," the decrease has been large, and merely nominal in the case of the "Guardian." It is a singular fact, that, whilst the latter show a considerable increase in the number of subscribers, there should be a falling off in the receipts on their account, especially to such a large extent as in the case of the "Messenger." Had the receipts for the year on their account borne an increase over the receipts of the previous year, corresponding with the increase in the number of subscribers, the Board would have been able to report an excess in the receipts over the disbursements for the year, instead of an opposite result. All this has occurred, whilst most constant, pressing and persevering efforts have been made, on the part of the officials of the Board, to secure a prompt and full return of receipts on account of the papers in question. The result may be attributable to the embarrassed condition of the monetary affairs of the country, from the effects of which, it is hoped, there will soon be afforded some tangible relief.

The several periodicals issued by the Board furnish an income sufficient to cover the expenses incurred in their publication, except the "Review"

and the "Messenger." The former still falls short some \$200. or \$300., as has been the case during previous years. As the continuance of its publication is deemed necessary for the interests of the Church, its friends should rally around it, and give it at least a living support. In regard to the latter, "The Messenger," it has been gaining steadily in the number of subscribers ever since its location in Philadelphia, commencing with two thousand, nine hundred and seventy-one, and now reaching nearly five thousand. Its income during a greater portion of this time covered its expenses, the main deficit being during the past two years, owing to the decrease in the subscription price, and the increased expenses incurred by the additional force employed on the paper and the superior style, in which it is issued. As the Superintendent stated at the time the new departure was taken, it will require a subscription list of at least ten thousand paying subscribers to cover the expenses incurred in its publication, and when the improvement was ventured upon, it was hoped, that this number of subscribers would be furnished in due season; they can also be furnished, if the ministry and laity in the Church, will generally set themselves actively to work.

It is gratifying to the Board to be able to say, that the "The Messenger," as at present issued, gives general satisfaction to the Church, not a word of serious complaint having been heard from any quarter. It is felt, that the interests, as well as the honor of the Church, require, that it should continue to be issued in its present superior style; and no disposition, therefore, should be evinced, to go back from this advanced position. There should rather, if possible, be a forward movement; and the Church should rally manfully to the aid of the Board, sustaining it fully in this important enterprise, seeing that, in that case, a few more years of successful labor will be sufficient to place the paper on the basis so much desired.

There has been an increase in the receipts in the Book Store during the past year. It is not very large; but it is still encouraging, showing that a favorable turn has taken place in its affairs, the income having decreased from nearly \$22,000., as it was a short time before the commencement of the financial panic, to a little over \$13,000., as it was last year. The improved condition of this department, the facilities afforded for purchasing at reasonable rates being as favorable as in the best establishments elsewhere, gives much promise for the future, so that it is in the power of the friends of the Church to make this an efficient and powerful agency for good.

The number of copies of the different works issued by the Board, printed during the year, has not been as large as in former years. This is always governed by the demand for the works; and hence the number may confidently be expected to increase in the future, as the demand itself for the works shall increase. The Board has issued only one new work during the year, and that is an improved edition of Dr. Van Horne's "Companion of Praise." It is a work, which has special merits in reference to the sphere it is intended to fill, and is accordingly meeting with a most welcome reception, as its true character becomes known, and its merits are appreciated. It is a remarkable, but by no means strange fact, that since its issue, the demand for Dr. Harbaugh's "Hymns and Chants" has been largely increased, with the circulation of which, some of its friends, at first, entertained some fears, the issue and circulation of the "Companion of Praise" would interfere.

With this statement of the present condition, and the operations of the Board during the past year, its interests are submitted to the earnest consideration of the respective Synods, under whose auspices it is carried forward, in the confident hope, that, whatever action may be taken, it will

be such as will serve greatly to facilitate and advance its operations in the future.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Board.

D. W. GROSS, *President.*

SAM'L R. FISHER, *Secretary.*

October 8, 1877.

II. REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION BOARD.

The Special Committee to whom were referred the documents of the Publication Board, respectfully report, that those documents give a full and clear statement of the actual condition of our publication interests, and that after careful deliberation upon all the facts in the case, your Committee take pleasure in recommending to the favorable attention of this body, the following resolutions:

1. *Resolved*, That this Synod is gratified to learn from the report of the Committee appointed to examine into the financial condition of the Publication Board, as found incorporated in the annual report of the Board, showing a balance of good assets over the liabilities of the Board of \$31,884.17, after deducting \$21,339.16 from the full value of the entire assets, for worthless accounts, and depreciated values.

2. *Resolved*, That this Synod hereby expresses its satisfaction with the manner in which *The Messenger* is conducted, and its desire that it should continue to be kept up to its present excellent standard; and with a view of making its subscription list equal, at least, to its cost of publication, in its present superior form, the several pastors of this Synod are hereby earnestly requested to give it the widest possible circulation among their people, calling to it their special attention, by a systematic effort, in conjunction with their several consistories, before the close of the present year.

3. *Resolved*, That this Synod also respectfully reiterates its request to the Board, to observe all due economy in the management of its financial affairs, not inconsistent with the true interests of the establishment.

Your Committee also report, that the financial statement of the Board is so full and explicit as to cover the request contained in the Resolution of this Synod, passed one year ago, and referred to this Committee from page 41 in its printed Minutes.

The new Charter for the Board of Publication, as reported to last Synod, has obtained full legal sanction, and the Board is acting under it. To meet the provisions of its *third* section, relating to the number of members to constitute the Board, and the order of their succession, the Board suggests a plan, found in its Annual Report, which the Committee recommend to Synod for adoption.

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. KREMER,
J. W. SANTEE,
E. R. ESCHBACH,
JNO. P. REED,
A. R. SCHNEBLT,
Committee.

The Committee on Minutes of Classes, in reply to item 13 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod, reported that all the Minutes of Classes in their possession gave evidence of the Classes having made renewed efforts to increase the circulation of *The Messenger*.

HYMNS FOR THE REFORMED CHURCH WITH MUSIC.

The Committee appointed at the Synod of Hanover to prepare and publish an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," accompanied with music, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

Your Committee, appointed to prepare an edition of the Hymn Book accompanied with music respectfully report, that the work assigned them is not yet completed. The whole ground has been gone over by the Committee appointed by the Synod of the United States, and much of it also by your Committee ; but as yet there has been no joint session of the two Committees to examine the work critically, and to determine finally in reference to it. The delay of such joint session has been unavoidable. We can therefore only report progress, and ask to be continued another year, in which we hope to be able to finish the work.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF MINISTERS AND WIDOWS OF MINISTERS.

The following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That this Synod recommend collections to be taken up in the several congregations within our bounds on or about the third Sunday in June next for the benefit of the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church in the United States.

During the Sessions of Monday Morning, the Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received, amended, and adopted. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two hundred tickets of these nominations printed for the use of Synod, and the election was made the order of the day for Tuesday Morning Session.

At the appointed time, the election was held. Revs. H. Wissler, T. F. Hoffmeier, W. I. Stewart, and Elder J. B. Resser were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Trustees of Synod, Missions Sunday-Schools, and Board of Visitors and Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon the members of Synod, to remunerate the sexton, and to meet incidental expenses. The Revs. J. M. Scheck, B. R. Carnahan, and D. W. Ebbert were appointed a Committee to collect said assessment. At a subsequent session, the Committee reported, as follows, which was received and adopted:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee, appointed to collect the assessment of twenty-five cents from each member of Synod, begs leave to report, that it has attended to its duty, having called upon all the members of Synod present, and have collected Twenty-seven Dollars and Fifty Cents, which amount has been handed over to the pastor of the Church.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. SCHICK,
B. R. CARNAHAN,
DAVID W. EBBERT,
Committee.

On motion, it was ordered, that the *Lemmata* be so amended as to have two additional *Standing Committees*,—one, on Education, and one, on Publication.

On motion, it was also,

Resolved, That Synod annually appoint a Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology, whose duty it shall be to present to Synod a brief history of the life and labors of any minister of Synod, who may depart this life during the Synodical year: said Committee to report at the following annual meeting. Revs. Wm. M. Deatrick, J. W. Santee, A. J. Heller, and Elders G. S. Griffith, and I. H. Keefer were appointed such Standing Committee for the present Synodical year.

Revs. E. R. Eschbach, A. C. Geary, and M. H. Sangree were appointed a committee, through which all applications for leave of absence were to be made. The committee reported from day to day.

The following members of Synod obtained leave of absence and left before the sessions closed, to wit:—Revs. G. W. Glessner, P. A. Long, J. M. Mickley, R. Rauhauser, J. Hassler, M. L. Shuford, J. S. Loose, H. St. J. Rinker, A. Shulenberger, W. D. Lefevre, J. G. Noss, F. S. Lindaman, J. Ault, J. O. Miller, R. R. Smith, A. H. Kremer, E. E. Higbee, D. W. Ebbert, E. G. Williams, W. H. Herbert, and Elders J. Seibert, J. Hefflefinger, C. P. Matthaci, J. Hager, S. R. Weaver, W. W. Wenner, J. Albaugh, A. R. Schnebly, I. H. Keefer, G. W. Betz, G. W. Hench, R. L. Gray, C. A. Shultz, E. Staley, J. Miller, and L. Markell.

ARTICLE XXII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and adopted, viz. :

Resolved, That the most cordial thanks of this Synod are hereby tendered to the Pastor, Consistory, and members of the First Reformed Church and other members of the Reformed Churches of the city of Baltimore, for their kind entertainment and liberal hospitality extended to us, during our present sessions.

Resolved, That the Pastors of the First and Third Reformed Churches of this city be requested to read the foregoing resolution from their respective pulpits:

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to convey the thanks of this body to the Ticket Departments of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, the Pennsylvania Railroad, the Northern Central Railway, and the Western Maryland Railroad, for kindness in making provision to pass the members of Synod over their respective roads at reduced rates of fare.

The Synodical Roll was then called finally, and the following members were found absent without permission, viz. : Revs. J. B. Shontz, I. M. Motter, and Elders E. Krone, H. Hartzel, M. McSherry, A. H. Addams, J. H. Hinea, P. B. Mikesell, and J. P. Diehl.

The Minutes were then read and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIII.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted :

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be *in Convention*.

Resolved, That we adjourn to meet again in annual sessions in the First Reformed Church of Hagerstown, Md., on Wednesday, the 16th day of October, A. D. 1878, at 7½ o'clock, P. M.

Adjourned with the repetition of the Apostles' Creed, singing the Gloria in excelsis, prayer, the doxology, and the Apostolic Benediction by the President.

J. A. PETERS, *President*.

Official Copy from the original Minutes.

Attest,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

CLASSIS OF ZION.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfirmed Members.	Bapt'm	Confirmation.	Certificate.	Communicants.	Excommunicated.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	Sunday School Scholars.	General.	Local.	Students.	Co., Pa.
Jacob Nechler,	1 Manheim,	455	180	26	38		430		12	8	200	\$ 206.47				Hanover, York
Frederick W. Vandermoot,	2 Dillsburg,	215		16	2	8	200		10	2		200.00				York, York
Daniel Kiegel,	1 Without charge,															Dillsburg, York
Jacob Ziegler,	1 Trinity Church, York.															York, York
Jacob O. Miller, D. D.,	4 Shrewsbury,	401	286	19	8	35	19	370	14	10	3	575	475.00	\$ 226.00	1	Shrewsbury, York
Daniel Gring,	7 Hanover,	450	220	41	34	34	12	400	8	8	7	225	86.60	400.00		York, York
Wm. K. Zieher, D. D.,	2 Christ Church,	337	275	19	22	22	12	275	6	6	1	250	398.00	1308.45		Hanover, York
John Ault,	2 Mechaniceburg,	970	630	57	58	58	17	900	8	18	3	350	180.00	335.00		Littletown, Adams
Wm. E. H. Deatrich,	5 Emanuel's,	291	157	15	8	5	5	285	2	23	2	195	105.00	1795.00		Mechaniceburg, Cumberl'd
Jacob D. Zehring,	5 Trinity,	960	402	81	10	66	3	892	2	23	10	325	211.86	945.00		Codorus, York
Rinehart K. Smith,	3 Zion's Church, York,	283	117	47	18	18	2	177	2	12	6	174	13.00			York, York
Aaron Wanner,	1 Zion's Church,	203	170	8	1	1	2	170	2	14	1	100	50.00	300.00		York, York
Aaron Spangler,	4 Zion's charge,	460	169	18	33	7	288		2	13	5	250	125.50			Blain, Perry
Francis S. Lindaman,	4 Paradise,	250	300	25	16	17	17	300					300.00			Dallastown, York
Reuben Rauhauser,	2 Gettysburg,	800	620	76	35	9	703		11	24	10	361	340.00	1500.00		York, York
Israel S. Welles, D. D.,	4 Landisburg,	325	200	15	3	10	7	310	2	5	1	125	62.00	600.00		Gettysburg, Adams
Wm. H. Herbert,	3 Conawago,	390	157	5	7	7	235		2	5	4	195	295.50	375.80	1	Landisburg, Perry
Andrew J. Heller,	1 Carlisle,	475	300	14	14	14	1	400		10	3	200	186.64	5000.00		Arendtsville, Adams
Amos H. Kremer, D. D.,	1 Newburg,	233	117	7	1	2	158		4	7	1	146	14.00	1500.00		Carlisle, Cumberland
Geo. W. Glesner, D. D.,	5 Abbottown,	85	150	7	2	2	85		5	10	7	395	81.35		3	Shippensburg, "
Wm. F. Colliflower,	3 New Bloomfield,	675	625	38	3	21	10	600	5	10	7	395	81.35	200.00		New Oxford, Adams
James I. Good,	1 Heidelberg Ch., York,	157	125	15	10	1	20	127	3	4	1	185	75.80	825.00		Newport, Perry
John Kretzing,	3 Duncannon,	286	180	10	8	5	218		15	7	3	282	75.80			Duncannon, Perry
U. Henry Hellman,	4 Sulphur Spring,	120	98	18	1	5	7	90		2	3	105	13.93	534.42		Carlisle, Cumberland
Ed. B. Shaefer,	1 Without charge,	183	107	4			17	140		4	3	60	37.00			Herndon, Fairfax
F. E. Vandermoot,	4 Kraits Creek,	150	150	10	4	4	118			5	4	300	39.00			York, York
J. Maron Mottley,	1 Mt. Zion Cong.,	75	72	2			50						16.00			
W. G. Van Williams,	3 St. Andrew's Cong.,	10		13	7		10									
Sup. of Rev. A. Wanner,	3 Mt. Pleasant Charge.	100					80									
Total, 99.		10139	5997	605	82	454	157	7050	2	81	240	195	\$3095.36	\$16977.57	5	

POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.

CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfirmed Members.	Infants.	Adults.	Bapt'm.	Certificate.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	Student- for Ministry.	General.	Local.	Post-Office Address.
William M. Deatrick,	Flu. Agt. Mer. College.	333	278	12	8	19	7	375	3	10	3	201	1	\$1306.03	Mercersburg, Franklin Co., Pa.
Isaac G. Brown,	3 Mercersburg,	312	240	26	2	7	18	260	16	7	1	199	1	251.25	" "
Adam C. Whitmer,	1 Altoona,	74	10			1	5	74	5				3	75.00	" "
Elisathan E. Higbee, D. D.,	1 College Church,	191	160											1196.25	Mercersburg, Franklin
John H. Sykes,	2 Greencastle,	355	150	10	3	9	10	165	2	1	1	94		245.00	" "
Albert G. Dolz,	2 Huntingdon,	365	100	14				330	5	4	2	214		180.00	Huntingdon, Huntingdon
John A. Peters,	3 Waterstreet,	328	220	17	1	15	16	360	19	10	2	270		883.68	" "
John N. Krenner,	3 Bedford,	259	150	10	1	16	6	306	2	11	3	181		254.35	Alexandria, "
Ellis N. Sangree,	4 Everett,	200	174	9		5		240	10	4	4	125		157.50	Bedford, Bedford
Milton H. Comort,	3 Grimsitor hill,	205	225	24	4	6	2	180		9	25	120		52.00	Everett, "
Henry F. Seiple,	4 Woodbury,	348	270	39	4	29	3	314	5	20	4	250		60.00	Chambersburg, Franklin
David M. Whitmore,	4 St. Clairsville,	273	200	20	1	1	1	234	1	9	2	135		260.00	Pattonsaville, Bedford
John M. Schick,	3 Friend's Cove,	86	63	7	1	4	22	78	1	13	2	200		344.80	" "
William I. Stewart,	3 Oriskania,	72	59	3	4	20	10	235	8	1	7	4		55.00	Charlestown, "
John M. Schick,	1 St. John's Church,	144	45	6	8	18	10	135	2	1	1	100		354.25	St. Thomas, Franklin
Osac M. Mottet,	2 Mont Alto,	156	60				7	2	106	2	2	260		24.15	Chambersburg, "
Isaac W. Ebbert,	1 Chambersburg,	274	205	8			18	10	2	1	1	135		267.61	Waynesboro, "
William C. Gremer,	2 Shippensburg,	142	104				8	9	225	6	6	1	370	558.51	Shippensburg, Cumberland
William Aug. Gring,	3 Sulphur Spring,	360	375	30	8	8	2	112	2	6	2	1	100	1590.00	Chambersburg, Franklin
Vacant.	4 Greenfield,	170	105	6			4	2	140	2	18	2	150	16.87	Buffalo Mills, Bedford
"	4 McConnellsburg,	283	294	26	15	1	2	256	2	18	2	150		11.00	Sarah, Blair
"	3 Schellsburg Valley,	251	190	19	9	1	1	240	9	7	2	130		11.00	McConnellsburg, Fulton
"	2 Clover Creek,	200	150	10			9	1	2	8	2	100		195.55	Jamez Creek, Huntingdon
"	2 Martinsburg,	190	140	5			1	170	3	5	3	150		1.00	Schellsburg, Bedford
"	1 Middleburg,	72	55	2	2	4		160	3	5	3	200		225.00	Martinsburg, Blair
"	3 Wayneboro,	338	246	14	2	6	1	270	2	1	2	275		43.10	" "
"														387.71	State Line, Franklin
"														2085.00	Waynesboro, "
Total, 35.		6873	4678	398	30	211	144	5673	119	173	54	4191	18	\$4,463.15	\$27,952.40

MINISTERS.	REMARKS.	ADDRESS.
George R. Zacharias.....	Disabled.....	Upper Strasburg, Franklin Co., Pa.
Jacob B. Kerschner.....	Professor in Mercersburg College.....	Mercersburg, " "
Harrison H. W. Hibelman.....	Called to Mt. Bethel Charge, Classis of East Pennsylvania.	Stone Church, Northampton "
Elias D. Shoemaker.....	Without Charge.....	Bedford, Bedford "
Jeriah S. Shade.....	Called to the Astoria Charge, Shelby Classis, Illinois.....	Astoria, Illinois.
William D. Lefevre.....	Without Charge.....	Littlestown, Adams Co., Pa.
Henry Miller.....	Superannuated.....	Waynesboro, Franklin "
Jacob Hamler.....	Principal of Female Seminary, and Supply for London and Fannettsburg Churches.....	Mercersburg, " "
Samuel R. Bridenbaugh.....	Called to the Berlin Charge, Somerset Classis, Pa.....	Berlin, Somerset "
Frederick A. Ruple.....	Without Charge.....	Martinsburg, Blair "
John B. Kieffer.....	Licentiate, Professor in Mercersburg College.....	Mercersburg, Franklin "
George N. Abbott.....	".....	South Newbury, Vermont.
George F. Mull.....	" Professor in Mercersburg College.....	Mercersburg, Franklin Co., Pa.
Henry S. Garner.....	Licentiate.....	Williamsburg, Blair "
John M. North.....	Licentiate.....	Mercersburg, Franklin "

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfirmed Members.	Infant Baptism.	Adult Baptism.	Confirmed.	Received by Certificate.	Communed.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Benevolent Contributions.	Students for the Ministry.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Jno. C. Hensell,	3 Rockingham,	187	67	5	6	11		144	4		1	3	100	\$200.00		Mt. Crawford, Rockingham Co., Va.
G. H. Martin, D. D.,	4 Woodstock,	350		27	6	26	3	325			2	1	90	125.00		Woodstock, Shenandoah "
Hy. St. J. Rinker,	1 Lovettsville,	110	78	8	9			70			2	1	60	30.00		Lovettsville, Loudon "
S. N. Gallender, D. D.,	2 Mt. Crawford,	195		5	1	2	5	180	1		1	1	50	325.00	2	Pleasant Valley, Rockingham Co., Va.
C. G. Fisher,	2 Winchester,	110	78	16	4	15	1	83			1	1	75	25.00		Winchester, Clark "
H. Talheim,	3 Edenburg,	177		10	7			100			3	1	115	35.00		Edenburg, Shenandoah "
J. C. Bowman,	1 Shepherdstown,	125	50		5	1	102				4	1	115	45.00		Shepherdstown, Jefferson Co., West Va.
J. A. Hoffheims,	1 Martinsburg,	201			4	19	10	174	4		1	1	152	93.50		Martinsburg, Berkeley Co., West Va.
A. J. Whitmore,	2 Middlebrook,	126		5				75	1		1	1	65	20.00		Middlebrook, Augusta Co., Va.
B. R. Curnahan,	4 Mill Creek,	207		1		10		183			1					Mt. Jackson, Shenandoah Co., Va.
J. S. Lowe,	" Without charge,															Dayton, Rockingham "
A. J. Bowers,	"															Weyer's Cave, Augusta "
Ministers, 12.		1788	273	107	19	98	34	1488	13		38	10	707	\$918.50	2	

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Members Uncon- firmed.	Infant Baptism.	Adult Baptism.	Confirmed.	By certificate or re- newal of profes's'n	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students for Min- istry.	Contribut's Benefvolent Purposes.	Contribut's Congregational Purposes.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
G. William Welker,	3 Guilford,	283	160	15	8	16	4										Greensboro, Guilford Co., N. C.
Jeremiah Ingold,	Without charge,																Hickory, Catawba Co., "
Thomas Long,	4 Upper Davidson,	232	115	13	9	16											Salem, Forsyth Co., "
Jesse W. Cecil,	Without charge,																Thomasville, Davidson Co., "
John Ingle,	do																Shaw's Mills, Guilford Co., "
John C. Denny,	do																Hellig's Mills, Rowan Co., "
Jacob C. Clapp,	6 Newton,	334	189	23	5		5	1			6	1	60				Newton, Catawba Co., "
Peter M. Trexler,	Without charge,																Salisbury, Rowan Co., "
Michael L. Hedrick,	4 Lower Davidson,	185	90	19	14	28	1	194			2	2	95	1			Indian Hill, Davidson Co., "
John A. Foll,	4 Grace,	192	84	4	2	5	7				2	1	50				Newton, Catawba Co., "
Julius H. Shuford,	Without charge,																China-Grove, Rowan Co., "
Robert F. Crooks,	2 Eastern Rowan,	453	131	4	4	3	3	2			4	2	130	1	10.00		Hellig's Mills, Rowan Co., "
Vacant,	2 * Central	109	50	4	1	2	2				3	2	105				
do	2 * Western	287	140	14	9	3	3	216			1	1	175				
do	1 St. Luke Congregat'n,	36	15	2	7	1							40				
do	1 Moffit's Grove Cong.,	20	10														

* Supplied by Rev. P. M. Trexler and J. C. Denny.

† " " J. H. Shuford.

‡ " " P. M. Trexler.

§ " " J. W. Cecil.

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTERS.	Congregations.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfirmed.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificates.	Communicants.	Excommunicated.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Benevolent Contributions.	Students for Holy Ministry.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESSES.
Julius H. Krueger,	1	First Reformed Church,	36	105	71	7	36	12	1	95	\$34.35	San Francisco, California.				
L. C. Edmunds,	1	First Reformed Church,	50	74	9	40	2	1	65	15.00	Stockton, do					
Frederick Fox,	1	Salem Reformed Church,	28	40	12	1	25	2	1	40	10.00	Napa, Napa County, do				
John Gantenbein,	1	Ev. Reformed Church,	66	70	10	6	13	3	1	50		Portland, Oregon.				
J. Muehlhaupt,	1											Salem, do				
Total, 5.	5		178	289	102	6	20	167	19	4		\$59 35				

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.

Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.

	Ministers.	Congregations.	Members.	Unconfirmed Members.	Baptisms	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communicants.	Excommunicated.	Dismissed.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students for the Ministry.	Benevolent Purposes.	Local Pur- poses.	Contributions.	
Zions,	29	76	10,199	5,007	605	32	454	137	7,930	18	240	96	5,736	5	\$3,035.88	\$16,977.87	
Mercersburg,	35	69	6,373	4,678	388	39	211	144	5,673	119	173	51	4,191	18	6,463.15	\$7,932.40	
Maryland,	23	48	5,718	3,941	328	36	304	67	4,936	73	208	43	3,711	3	3,091.53	\$2,193.77	
Virginia,	12	23	1,788	1,012	107	19	98	34	1,488	13	38	10	707	2	918.50	\$2,200.00	
North Carolina,	12	27	1,876	696	91	15	127	8	1,785	3	42	11	550	3	294.80	\$5,000.00	
San Francisco,	5	5	276	289	102	2	6	46	243	2	30	5	280		29.35	\$1,000.00	
Total : 6 Classes,	116	247	26,210	16,223	1,621	143	1,900	451	22,085	2	220	721	15,175	31	\$13,923.21	\$85,624.24	
Synod of the United States, 8 Classes,	201	443	63,500	35,960	5,783	188	3,797	1,291	61,398	88	656	2,263	403	31,270	31	\$1,077.00	\$85,067.00
Synod of Ohio, 12 Classes,	161	338	21,041	11,910	1,638	473	1,770	858	19,142	31	377	610	273	18,688	31	6,101.00	\$1,696.00
Synod of the North West, 9 Classes,	125	192	16,088	13,000	1,553	71	1,092	501	12,131	110	305	461	148	8,701	11	6,910.23	\$1,758.90
Synod of Pittsburgh, 5 Classes,	32	112	5,480	7,427	600	41	483	213	8,228	8	179	248	92	5,516	11	5,920.13	\$1,247.00
German Synod of the East, 5 Classes,	35	37	7,861	5,975	1,647	8	698	336	6,552	4	112	283	34	5,201	3	3,987.00	\$3,198.00
Grand Total : 6 Synods, 45 Classes,	690	1,396	118,170	91,605	13,136	800	8,800	3,778	119,596	243	1,919	1,213	81,857	174	\$98,941.57	\$143,297.11	

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SIXTH ANNUAL SESSIONS.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH,

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

Hagerstown, Md., October, A. D, 1878.

YORK, PA.:
GAZETTE STEAM JOB PRINT.
1878.

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

IN GENERAL CONVENTION.

HAGERSTOWN, MD., OCTOBER, 1878.

YORK, PA.:
GAZETTE STEAM JOB PRINT.

1878.

5

LEMMATA.

ART. I. OPENING OF SYNOD.

ART. II. MEMBERS PRESENT.

ART. III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

ART. IV. RULES OF ORDER.

ART. V. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.

1. *On Religious Services.*
2. *On Minutes of Synod.*
3. *On Overtures.*
4. *On Minutes of Classes.*
5. *On Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.*
6. *On the State of Religion and Statistical Reports.*
7. *On Education.*
8. *On Missions.*
9. *On Publication.*
10. *On Finance.*
11. *On Nominations.*
12. *On Ministerial Necrology.*

ART. VI. COMMUNICATIONS.

ART. VII. RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

ART. VIII. MINUTES OF SYNOD.

ART. IX. OVERTURES.

ART. X. MINUTES OF CLASSES.

ART. XI. EXAMINATION, LICENSURE, AND ORDINATION.

ART. XII. STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

ART. XIII. EDUCATION.

ART. XIV. MISSIONS.

ART. XV. FINANCE.

ART. XVI. APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

ART. XVII. COMPLAINTS.

ART. XVIII. SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

ART. XIX. CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

ART. XX. PUBLICATION.

ART. XXI. MISCELLANEOUS.

ART. XXII. MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

ART. XXIII. RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

ART. XXIV. ADJOURNMENT.

SIXTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its Annual Sessions, convened in General Convention in Hagerstown, Md., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-eight. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the Sixteenth, and continued until the night of the Twenty-first day of the month, inclusive, at eleven o'clock.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in *General Convention*, on Wednesday evening, October 16th, A. D. 1878, at 7½ o'clock, in the First Reformed Church of the City of Hagerstown, Md., pursuant to appointment of last annual meeting, and was opened with the usual religious services. The President of the previous year, Rev. John A. Peters, preached the opening sermon from 2 Tim. 2:2—"And the things that thou hast heard of me among many witnesses, the same commit thou to faithful men, who shall be able to teach others also."

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers.—Jacob O. Miller, D. D., Jacob D. Zehring, Aaron Spangler, Francis S. Lindaman, Moses Kieffer, D. D., William H. Herbert, William F. Colliflower, J. Marion Mickley, Frederick J. Sauerber, John Kretzing, Israel S. Weisz, D. D., Rinehart R. Smith, Reuben Rauhauser, William R. H. Deatrich, Andrew J. Heller, George W. Glessner, D. D., Aaron Wanner, E. Garver Williams, Amos H. Kremer, D. D., and the Licentiates Ambrose D. Gring, and Samuel T. Wagner.

Elders.—William A. Wilt, Jesse M. Forney, Frederick Sakemiller, Frederick Gutshall, John Stal'smith, John Hager, Jacob March,

Michael Neuman, Alfred H. Addams, Esq., William Stuck, Michael Deatrick, William Sprenkle, Emanuel Reiber, Jacob Wetzel, George Hoke, Henry M. Cocklin, and Elias B. Leiby.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers.—Joseph W. Santee, D. D., George L. Staley, D. D., Edmund R. Eschbach, D. D., William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, J. Spangler Kieffer, Mortimer L. Shuford, P. Allison Long, Orange E. Lake, Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, Henry Wissler, T. Franklin Hoffmeier, Ambrose C. Geary, Leighton G. Kremer, Abner R. Kremer, Anthony Shulenberger, John G. Noss, George B. Russell, D. D., Jonas B. Shontz, Charles H. Coon, and Licentiate Marion L. Firor, Henry E. Cook, and George M. Zacharias.

Elders.—Louis Markell, David C. Hammond, Matthias P. Zacharias, Ezra Williard, Urias Ramsburg, Goldsboro S. Griffith, John Stockman, David S. Firor, Henry Biser, William A. Hagerman, Peter Middlekauff, Christopher G. Boyer, Hon. William H. Knode, John T. Ankeny, Peter B. Mikesell, and Gideon Remsburg.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers.—William M. Deatrick, Isaac G. Brown, A. Carl Whitmer, John H. Sykes, Albert G. Dole, John A. Peters, Milton H. Sangree, Henry I. Comfort, David N. Dittmar, David M. Whitmore, John M. Schick, William I. Stewart, David W. Ebbert, William C. Cremer, Franklin F. Bahner, Henry F. Long, J. David Miller, Henry S. Garner, J. Alvin Reber, Jacob Hassler, Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., and Isaac M. Motter.

Elders.—Samuel B. Snively, George Koons, Henry Omwake, David Grove, Cyrus T. Kieffer, David B. Russell, David Fortney, John Bowman, John G. Lingenfelter, Isaac K. Little, William Philips, Andrew R. Schnebly, and John D. Aurandt.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers.—John C. Bowman, Barton R. Carnahan, Samuel N. Calender, D. D., Anderson J. Whitmore, John A. Hoffheins, Henry Tallhelm, Henry St. J. Rinker, Charles G. Fisher, and the Licentiate George A. Whitmore.

Elders.—William J. Hensell, William H. Pargelt, Jacob Lantz, Emanuel Wise, Hiram A. Jordan, Americus J. Souder, Joseph Welshans, and Richard L. Gray.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

* * * * *

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

* * * * *

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

From the Synod of the United States.—Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, D. D., and Peter S. Davis, D. D.

From the Synod of Pittsburgh.—Revs. Henry W. Hoffmeier, and William F. Lichliter.

From Zion's Classis.—Elder Louis H. Koch.

From Maryland Classis.—Elder Dennis Remsberg.

From Mercersburg Classis.—Elders Jacob Heyser, and Adam B. Wingerd.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of the following ministers, residents of Hagerstown, was announced from time to time, during the sessions of Synod, viz:

Rev. J. C. Thompson of the Presbyterian Church; Revs. J. K. Williams and S. W. Owen of the Lutheran Church; Revs. James Gamble and A. S. Hawk of the Methodist Church; Rev. C. L. Keedy, Principal of the Hagerstown Female Seminary; and Rev. Levi Keller of the Lutheran Church of Funkstown, Md.

NOTE.—Many of the members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session, and hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would have appeared, had they been present at the formation of the Roll, at the opening session, but in the order of their appearance upon the floor of Synod.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. Moses Kieffer, D. D., *President*, Gettysburg, Pa.

Rev. William M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*, Mercersburg, Pa.

Rev. Joseph W. Santee, D. D., *Corresponding Secretary*, Cave-town, Md.

Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., *Treasurer*, Frederick, Md.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The Rules of Order, as adopted at the Synod of Chambersburg, were then read by the Stated Clerk. The *Bar of the House* was defined, agreeably to these Rules, to be the first nine pews from the pulpit.

On motion, the following rules were adopted, viz.:

Resolved, That hereafter, in every instance, written credentials, properly signed, must be presented before an elder is entitled to a seat on the floor of this Synod, as a member thereof.

Resolved, That hereafter the election of Synod's Treasurer be subsequent to the presentation of his annual report to the Synod.

The following hours were fixed upon for the opening and closing of the current sessions of Synod, viz.:

The forenoon session to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock. The afternoon session to begin at 2 and end at 4½ o'clock.

An evening session was held on Monday evening, the last day of the sessions.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the President, viz.:

Religious Services.—Revs. J. S. Kieffer, J. D. Zehring, L. G. Kremer, and Elders D. C. Hammond, and J. M. Forney.

Minutes of Synod.—Revs. W. M. Deatruck, J. A. Peters, M. H. Sangree, and Elders J. Stallsmith, and W. J. Hensell.

Minutes of General Synod.—Revs. W. F. Colliflower, M. L. Shuford, A. G. Dole, and Elders J. Hager, and E. Williard.

Overtures.—Revs. I. G. Brown, A. Spangler, J. T. Rossiter, and Elders U. T. Kieffer, and M. Deatruck.

Minutes of Classes.—Revs. S. S. Miller, J. M. Mickley, H. Wissler, and Elders A. H. Addams, and D. S. Firor.

Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.—Revs. J. W. Santee, J. O. Miller, S. N. Callender, and Elders J. March, and G. S. Griffith.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports.—Revs. A. C. Whitmer, A. C. Geary, O. E. Lake, and Elders W. A. Wilt, and H. Biser.

Education.—Revs. E. R. Eschbach, H. I. Comfort, F. S. Lindaman, and Elders L. Markell, and S. B. Snively.

Missions.—Rev. W. Goodrich, F. J. Sauerber, D. M. Whitmore, and Elders J. Stockman, and J. Bowman.

Publication.—Revs. J. A. Hoffheins, P. A. Long, W. I. Stewart, and Elders D. Fortney, and M. P. Zacharias.

Finance.—Revs. J. C. Bowman, W. H. Herbert, D. N. Dittmar, and Elders U. Ramsburg, and J. G. Lingenfelter.

Nominations.—Revs. W. C. Cremer, H. St. J. Rinker, J. M. Schick, and Elders D. B. Russell, and W. A. Hagerman.

Ministerial Necrology.—Revs. G. L. Staley, I. S. Weisz, W. R. H. Deatrich, and Elders W. H. Knode, and W. H. Bargelt.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Mercersburg, Maryland, Zion, Virginia, and North Carolina were received, and referred to the Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports, which were referred to the Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Report of the Board of Education was laid before Synod and read, and then referred to the Committee on Education.

4. The Annual Reports of the Board of Trustees, of the Treasurer, and of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., were received, and referred to the same Committee.

5. The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions were received and referred to the Committee on Missions.

6. Six other Communications were received, and referred to the Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VI.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following religious services, viz. :

1. The sessions of each day were opened and closed with appropriate religious services.

2. The Standing Committee on Religious Services submitted their report, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows :

The Committee on Religious Services would respectfully report, as follows :

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD, IN FIRST REFORMED CHURCH.

Thursday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier.

Friday Evening.—Synodical Sunday-school Board's service, conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith, member of the Sunday-school Board.

1st Topic: Sunday-school Conventions, how to conduct them, and their benefits; to be discussed by Rev. D. W. Ebbert and Rev. S. S. Miller.

2nd Topic: The Infant Class: to be discussed by Rev. Dr. Miller and Rev. J. C. Bowman.

3rd Topic: Asking questions—what and how to ask; to be discussed by Rev. Dr. Eschbach and Rev. Dr. Higbee.

Saturday Afternoon.—Services preparatory to the Holy Communion: sermon by Rev. J. Kretzing.

Sunday Morning.—Celebration of the Lord's Supper: sermon by Rev. Dr. Kieffer, President of Synod; liturgical service by Rev. Dr. Fisher and Rev. Dr. Callender.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school services. Addresses by Revs. A. C. Whitmer, A. C. Geary, and A. J. Heller.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. G. Noss.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES.

Christ Reformed Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. A. R. Kremer. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. W. F. Colliflower.

Salem Reformed Church.—*Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. N. H. Skyles.

St. John's Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. J. C. Bowman. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. J. B. Shontz.

Trinity Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. Dr. Staley. *Sunday Evening*, J. T. Rossiter.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. F. F. Bahner. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. B. R. Carnahan.

United Brethren Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. J. M. Mickley. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. F. S. Lindaman.

Disciple Church.—*Sunday Evening*, Rev. Dr. Weisz.

St. Matthew's German Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. Aaron Spangler.

Presbyterian Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. A. C. Whitmer. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. Dr. Callender.

Respectfully submitted,

J. SPANGLER KIEFFER,
Chairman.

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD AND GENERAL SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of last Annual Meeting and those of the General Synod of Lancaster publicly by the Synod was dispensed with, and the Printed Minutes of last annual meeting were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod to report the items of unfinished business, claiming the attention of this meeting; and those of the General Synod were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of General Synod to report the items that claim the attention of this Synod.

During the session of Thursday Forenoon, the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod submitted the following report, which was received, considered item by item, amended, adopted as a whole, and is as follows, viz. :

I. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF SYNOD.

Your Committee, to whom were referred the Minutes of Synod for last year, beg leave to report the following items of unfinished business requiring the attention of the present sessions of Synod, to wit :

Item 1, page 19. The term of office of Revs. I. G. Brown, W. C. Cremer, and S. N. Callender, as members of the Board of Education, terminates with the present meeting of Synod.

Item 2, page 34. Two resolutions apportioning \$4,500 among the several Classes to meet the indebtedness and current expenses of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions.

Item 3, page 35. The terms of office of Rev. J. O. Miller and Elder W. A. Wilt, as members of the Board of Missions, expired October 1st, 1878.

Item 4, page 35. A resolution earnestly calling the attention of the Tri-Synodic Board to the mission work in the Valley of Virginia, as a work which this Synod regards with special interest and hope.

Item 5, page 35. Action looking to the pledging of Synod to raise, in the way of church extension, its proportion of the amount necessary for the securing of a lot and the erection of a Chapel for the mission in Washington City, was laid on the table until the present annual meeting of Synod.

Item 6, page 37. An assessment for the Contingent Fund of Synod is made upon the several Classes.

Item 7, page 37. A large deficit is reported in the amount needed to refund the Two Thousand Dollars borrowed for the relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board, as authorized by the Synod of Winchester in 1875.

Item 8, page 38. The term of service of Elder Louis Markell, as a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod, will expire January 1st, 1879.

Item 9, page 40. A resolution requesting the Classes to hold Sunday-school Conventions within their bounds, so far as practicable.

Item 10, page 40. The term of office of Rev. A. C. Whitmer, as a member of the Sunday-school Board, ends at this meeting of Synod.

Item 11, page 41. The action of the Synod of Winchester, making it the duty of the Sunday-school Board either to prepare, or have prepared a *Manual*, giving a concise, practical, and popular account of the general idea and scheme of the *Church Year*, with specific, detailed statements of the significance of the separate days and seasons, and the logical order of thought contained in them, is once more reiterated.

Item 12, page 41. Action, in the case enjoining and commanding the Classis of North Carolina to desist from the use of any other hymn book by her congregations than those already allowed, until the General Synod grants such permission, is postponed until the present annual meeting of Synod; and the North Carolina Classis is commanded to give the Synod official information in regard to their action in the case.

Item 13, page 41. The Stated Clerk of the same Classis is required to send forthwith a copy of the minutes of the Classis for 1876-77 to the Stated Clerk of Synod.

Item 14, page 42. The Stated Clerk is instructed to have fifteen hundred copies of the Minutes of the last annual sessions of Synod published, and distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

Item 15, page 43. Agreeably to the Charter of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, it is made the duty of the Synod of the Potomac, at the present meeting, to elect a member of said Board, for the term of four years.

Item 16, page 47. The special committee, appointed by the Synod of Hanover, in 1876, of which Rev. Dr. Higbee is chairman, to prepare and publish, in conjunction with a similar committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church" *with music*, is continued another year.

Item 17, page 48. A Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology was appointed, of which Rev. W. M. Deatruck is chairman, whose duty it is made to report at this meeting of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK,
J. A. PETERS,
M. H. SANGREE,
J. STALLSMITH,
WM. J. HENSELL,
Committee.

Items 1, 3, 8, and 10 were severally adopted and then referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations to make the necessary nominations; for the action of Synod on items 2, 4, and 5, see Article XIV., Missions; on items 6 and 7, see Article XV., Finance; on items 9 and 11, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; on items 12 and 13, see Article XIX., Church Government; on items 14, 15, and 16, see Article XX., Publication; and on item 17, see Article XXII., Ministerial Necrology.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.

The Standing Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod reported during Monday Afternoon's session. The report of the Committee was received, amended, disposed of item by item, adopted, and is as follows, to wit:

The Standing Committee on the Minutes of General Synod report, as follows:

Item 1, page 26. Revs. J. O. Miller, D. D., G. W. Glessner, D. D., and Elder John P. Reed, Esq., have been appointed from the Synod of the Potomac to attend the Presbyterian Reformed Alliance, to be held in the city of Philadelphia in the year A. D. 1880.

Item 2, page 43. The Boards of Missions of the District Synods are requested to report to the Board of Missions of the General Synod, at least one month before its triennial meeting, a statement of their labors and their financial condition; and each Synod is also requested to send annually a copy of its Minutes to the General Synod's Board of Missions.

Item 3, page 43. The General Synod recommends to all District Synods and the Classes the feasibility of at once organizing missionary societies in all the congregations throughout the Church.

Item 4, page 50. The General Synod directs, that the claims of the Orphan Homes be urgently presented by the ministers and elders of all our congregations to the membership of the Church, and to adopt the best measures to develop most fully the spirit of charity.

Item 5, page 70. An amendment to the Constitution is proposed, in regard to the basis and mode of representation of the Classes in the meetings of the District Synods.

Item 6, page 76. This Synod is entitled to elect four delegates, two ministers and two elders, to the Commission to convene in the city of Harrisburg, Pa., on the last Wednesday of November, 1879, to consider and solemnly deliberate over all matters in controversy within the Church, with a view of devising a plan of amicable adjustment.

Item 5, page 78. The District Synods are advised to direct attention to the duty of seeking the divine guidance and blessing, to the end that special prayer be offered to God in behalf of the Commission to be appointed, and its great work; in the regular service, and in the

weekly prayer-meetings, at the time when that Commission shall meet for deliberation.

Item 8, page 82. The sum of \$260.00 was assessed upon this Synod for the Contingent Fund of the General Synod.

Item 9, page 85. The Stated Clerks of the several District Synods are requested to furnish three copies of the Minutes, for each of the three preceding years, to the General Synod, for its use.

Item 10, page 89. The next meeting of the General Synod will take place in Tiffin, Ohio, on Wednesday, May 18th, A. D. 1881, at 8 o'clock, P. M.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. F. COLLIFLOWER,
M. L. SHUFORD,
A. G. DOLE,
JOHN HAGER,
EZRA WILLIARD,
Committee.

Items 1, 2, 7, 9, and 10 were severally adopted. For the action of Synod on item 3, see Article XIV., Missions; on 4 and 6, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; on item 5, see Article XIX., Church Government; and on item 8, see Article XV., Finance.

ARTICLE IX. OVERTURES.

The Standing Committee on Overtures submitted the following report, which was received, acted on item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

The Committee on Overtures beg leave to offer the following report, to wit:

Item 1. An invitation from the Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Washington County, Md., now open in the immediate vicinity of Hagerstown, to visit their Exhibition.

Item 2. The resignation of Rev. Dr. Higbee as Assistant Editor of *The Messenger*.

Item 3. The resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters as member of the Boards of Education and Missions respectively.

Item 4. A statement from the Board of Foreign Missions that said Board has appointed the Licentiate Ambrose D. Gring as Missionary to Japan, and asks Synod's hearty co-operation in the work.

Item 5. A statement of the condition of Bethany Orphan's Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., and a request to aid in enlarging the work and usefulness of said institution.

Item 6. A petition from Revs. J. Gantenbein and J. Muellhaupt, members of San Francisco Classis and missionaries of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, requesting the Synod to make provision to organize a new Classis out of the territory of the San Francisco Classis, lying north of the State of California.

Respectfully submitted,

I. G. BROWN,
AARON SPANGLER,
J. T. ROSSITER,
CYRUS T. KIEFFER,
MICHAEL DEATRICK,
Committee.

For the action of Synod on items 1, 2, and 5, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; on item 3, see Articles XIII. and XIV., Education and Missions; on item 4, see Article XIV., Missions; and on item 6, see Article XIX., Church Government.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes presented their report, during Friday Afternoon's Session, which was received, disposed of item by item, amended, then adopted as a whole, and is as follows, viz.:

Your Committee on the Minutes of Classes submit the following as their report:

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. North Carolina Classis failed to furnish the Synod with their report on the State of Religion and Statistics, separately from their Minutes, as required by the Rules and Regulations of the Synod.
2. San Francisco Classis failed to furnish the Synod with a copy of its Minutes for the past year.
3. Zion's Classis met in adjourned meeting within the limits of another Classis.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. Zion's Classis refers the request of the Board of Foreign Missions, that constitutional arrangements be made for the ordination of Licentiate Ambrose D. Gring, whom said Board has appointed missionary to Japan, to the Synod, to determine the place and time of ordination, and make the necessary arrangements for the same.

5. Mercersburg Classis, by resolution, expresses its willingness to this Synod to transfer Mercersburg College to the fostering care of Synod, if, in its judgment, it is prepared to have such an institution under its care.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

6. Zion's, Maryland, Mercersburg, and Virginia Classes took favorable action on the subject of Home Missions.

7. Zion's, Maryland, and Mercersburg Classes took favorable action on Classical Sunday-school Conventions.

8. Maryland and Mercersburg Classes took favorable action in reference to the increased circulation of *The Messenger* and other periodicals of the Church.

9. *North Carolina Classis* did not comply with the Synod's injunction and command to desist from the use of any other hymn book by her congregations than those already allowed, until the General Synod grant such permission.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED, AND DISMISSED.

10. Zion's Classis licensed Ambrose D. Gring and Samuel T. Wagner; received the licentiate Frederick J. Sauerber from the Lancaster Classis, Synod of the United States, and ordained him; received Rev. Wm. D. Lefevre from the Mercersburg Classis; dismissed Rev. F. E. Vandersloot to the Virginia Classis, and Rev. Solomon B. Schafer to the East Susquehanna Classis.

11. Maryland Classis licensed Marion L. Firor and Henry E. Cook; received George B. Russell, D. D., from the Allegheny Classis, and Rev. Leighton G. Kremer from the Lebanon Classis.

12. Mercersburg Classis licensed Samuel C. Long and Isaac N. Peightel; ordained the licentiates J. David Miller, Henry S. Garner, Isaac N. Peightel, and J. Alvin Reber; received Revs. Franklin F. Bahner and Cyrus H. Reiter from the East Susquehanna Classis, Rev. Henry F. Long from the Tuscarawas Classis, the licentiate J. David Miller from the Philadelphia Classis, and the licentiate J. Alvin Reber from the Lebanon Classis; and dismissed Rev. Jeriah S. Shade to the Shelby Classis, Rev. William D. Lefevre to the Zion's Classis, Synod of the United States, Rev. Carl Gundlach to the West New York Classis, the licentiate George N. Abbott to the Orange Association of Congregational Ministers in the State of Vermont, the licentiate Samuel C. Long to the Iowa Classis, and Rev. John A. Peters

and the licentiate John B. Kieffer to the Lancaster Classis, Synod of the United States.

13. Virginia Classis licensed George A. Whitmore.

14. North Carolina Classis licensed Robert S. Crooks.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

15. Zion's Classis will meet in Jacob's Church of the Emanuel Charge, York county, Pa., on Friday, May 16th, A. D. 1879, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. Aaron Wanner, *President*, Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*, and Elder Wm. A. Wilt, *Treasurer*.

16. Maryland Classis will meet in Jefferson, Frederick County, Md., on Thursday, May 15th, A. D. 1879, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. N. H. Skyles, *President*, and Rev. S. S. Miller, *Stated Clerk* and *Treasurer*.

17. Mercersburg Classis will meet in Shippensburg, Cumberland County, Pa., on Wednesday, May 14th, A. D. 1879, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. Wm. A. Gring, *President*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk* and *Treasurer*.

18. Virginia Classis will meet in Smithfield, Jefferson County, West Virginia, on Thursday, May 15th, A. D. 1879, at 7½ o'clock P. M. Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, *President*, and Rev. H. St. John Rinker, *Stated Clerk* and *Treasurer*.

19. North Carolina Classis will meet in Emanuel's Church in Davidson County, North Carolina, on Thursday, May 22nd, A. D. 1879, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Rev. J. Ingle, *President*, Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*, and Rev. T. Long, *Treasurer*.

20. San Francisco Classis will meet in Stockton, California, June 1st A. D. 1879, at 8 o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. H. Krueger, *President*, and Rev. F. Fox, *Stated Clerk*.

Respectfully submitted,

SIMON S. MILLER,
J. MARION MICKLEY,
HENRY WISSLER,
DAVID S. FIROR,
Committee.

Items 1, 2, 3, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, and 20 were severally adopted. For Synod's action on item 4, see Article XIV., Missions; on item 5, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; and on item 9, see Article XIX., Church Government.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE and ORDINATION.

The Standing Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination offered the following report, at Monday Evening's Session, which was received and adopted, viz. :

The Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination would offer the following report : That no business, nor candidates for examination were referred to them, and, therefore, the Committee has nothing further to report.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SANTEE, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports, made the following report, at Monday Evening's session, which was received and adopted, to wit :

It is the duty and joyful privilege of the Christian to walk about Zion, and to go around about her, telling the towers thereof, marking well her bulwarks, and considering her palaces, that he may tell it to the generation following.

To-day again we must look at our Zion in the light of another past year, and the view is, in the main, truly encouraging.

All the Classical reports express great gratitude to God for the health and general physical ability vouchsafed to our Pastors, enabling them, with but little interruption, regularly to do their work.

Not a single minister died during the past Synodical year, save one, namely, the venerable Rev. Frederick William Vandersloot, of York, Pa., who was gathered unto his people in a good old age.

We must praise the Lord also for the very general peace and harmony prevailing in our churches ; and just now especially it becomes us gratefully to acknowledge the grace and goodness of God in the hopes which have come down to us from the action of the General Synod in May last, and to pray for the guidance of the Holy Ghost, in order that these fond hopes may be most fully realized.

From the Classical reports it is very evident that there has been general faithfulness on the part of the ministry in preaching, catechization, visitation, and Christian discipline.

Of course the work of the Lord has been hindered, in various ways, by the weakness and wickedness of men, as well as by the malice of the devil ; and so it comes to pass that the Classical reports tell of spots in our feasts of charity, occasional strife, illiberality, a lack of self-denial, and the neglect of great duties to Christ and His holy Church. Yet, not-

withstanding these manifold hindrances, we have evidence of reasonable growth and progress, as the blessed fruit of much hard work.

We have no news of any extraordinary religious awakening, nor do we expect it; for the kingdom of God cometh not thus, but as if a man should cast seed into the ground. After this quiet manner of grace, however, our growth and church life are encouraging.

The visible progress of the Church is seen in the increase of our communicant membership, the organization of new congregations, the ordination of ministers, the number of students for the Holy Ministry, the building of many new churches, and parsonages, and in the large amount of general church work that has been done.

The inner life of grace, however, expresses itself in many ways, which cannot be set down in a statistical table; and accordingly all the reports have encouraging words in regard to the piety of our people, and their growth in godliness through the faithful use of the means of grace.

On the other hand, the statistical tables show, that, on an average, each communicant member has given very little toward the benevolent work of the Church, as compared with our wealth; and we should fear lest we fall under the sore curse of those who rob God. Worse than all, is the painful fact that the reported alms of this year have fallen very far below the amount of last year.

It is not surprising, then, that our educational interests have seriously suffered, from financial embarrassment.

The same is true of Home Missions. Synod certainly cannot congratulate itself upon what has been done in this department. The work has gone evenly forward, it is true; but we must humbly confess, before God and men, that in this great central work of the Church we have done quite too little.

And yet, at the same time, we must adore the grace and good providence of God, who has led our Church to take up anew the work of Foreign Missions; and this Synod must rejoice also in the fact that one of its own sons is about to go to the foreign field.

Another very pleasing fact is the increased attention that has been given to Sunday School work. Many conventions have been held; our Classes are more alive to this great interest; our schools are better conducted, and more directly under the care of the churches; and very encouraging signs are seen on every hand.

This general view of our Zion should fill every earnest heart with devout thankfulness to the triune God, by whose loving hand we have been thus brought through the labor, care and joy of another year.

To Him let us humbly commit our persons and services, praying, for His blessing, and go forward into another year in faith and hope but with greater earnestness, knowing that the night cometh.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. WHITMER,
A. C. GEARY,
O. E. LAKE,
WM. A. WILT,
HENRY BISER,
Committee.

(For Statistical Tables see Appendix.)

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

The Board of Education presented its annual report to Synod, during the session of Friday Forenoon, which was received, approved, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education. The report is as follows, viz. :

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

Reverend Fathers and Brothers:—

Your Board, at its meeting in Baltimore, at the close of the last annual sessions of Synod, re-elected the following officers, viz. : Rev. S. N. Callender, *President*, Rev. I. G. Brown, *Secretary*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Treasurer*. The Executive Committee consists of Revs. Wm. M. Deatrick, I. G. Brown, and Wm. C. Cremer.

By the action of the last meeting of Synod, the Board was increased from seven to nine members, by the election of two additional members. The Synod ordered that three of these should hold office for three years, three of them for two years, and three of them for one year, and also that the members should determine among themselves their respective terms of service. This was accordingly done at the meeting of the Board, held immediately after the final adjournment of the last Synod, with the following result, namely : Revs. Wm. M. Deatrick, J. S. Kieffer, and J. W. Santee, to serve for the term of three years ; Revs. J. A. Peters, Wm. Goodrich, and Elder J. Heyser, for two years ; and Revs. I. G. Brown, Wm. C. Cremer, and S. N. Callender, for one year.

The Board held a meeting in Mercersburg, last April, at the close of the session in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, and attended the examinations of those students, who had received theological instruction in said institution. These examinations proved creditable to the young men and satisfactory to the members of the Board. Messrs. Marion L. Firor, Samuel T. Wagner, Samuel C. Long, George A. Whitmore, and Isaac N. Peightel, constituting the Senior Class in the Post Graduate Course of study in Mercersburg College, after having completed the full three years' curriculum of theological instruction, were granted certificates of dismissions, with recommendation for licensure, to their respective Classes. Messrs. Long and Peightel were duly licensed to preach the Gospel by the Mercersburg Classis, Mr. Firor by the Maryland Classis, Mr. Wagner by the Zion's Classis, and Mr. Whitmore by the Virginia Classis.

The Board likewise appointed the resident members of the Board a committee to attend the examinations of those beneficiary students, who were connected with the Collegiate and Preparatory Departments of Mercersburg College. These examinations took place during the month of June, and the Committee reported them to your Board, at a meeting held in Mercersburg, June 26th, 1878, as being very satisfactory to the committee, and in every instance as displaying commendable progress on the part of our beneficiary students. They stand well in their respective classes. The second and third highest grades of scholarship in the College were awarded to beneficiary students connected respectively with the Junior and Senior Classes of the last Collegiate year—the former a beneficiary of the Maryland Classis, and the latter a beneficiary of the Mercersburg Classis. Your Board is happy in being able to state, that all

the highest grades in the College were given to young men, who are students for the Holy Ministry; and that, in no instance, did the scholarship-grade of any beneficiary student, under the care and supervision of the Board, fall as low as 84: so that there was no occasion presented for admonition to increased diligence and faithfulness in study.

During the last Synodical year, the Board had under its care and supervision the following beneficiary students, to whom appropriations were made by the several Classes, under whose fostering care they respectively are, to wit:

Mercersburg Classis:—Isaac N. Peightel, Samuel C. Long, W. Wilberforce Deatruck, Samuel H. Eisenberg, Daniel H. Leader, Albert A. Black, George B. Resser, and Jonathan W. Miller.

Maryland Classis:—Marion L. Firor, E. Ranson Deatruck, and Charles I. Baker.

Virginia Classis:—George A. Whitmore, and Samuel L. Whitmore.

Zion's Classis:—Christian W. Summey. Lawrence M. Hensell was received as a beneficiary student, at our meeting in Baltimore, last October, upon the earnest recommendation of Rev. Dr. Higbee, and is now being supported as such, by funds furnished by the Maryland Classis. E. Ranson Deatruck was placed under the care of the Board, during the present summer, by the action of the same Classis.

The Board had thus under its care and supervision fifteen young men, as beneficiary students. Four of these having completed their course of study and been licensed, the Board has only eleven beneficiaries at present to supply with funds. Five of these will finish their theological studies next Spring, thus reducing the number to six, unless others are received, in the mean time. The diminishing numbers of those who are preparing for the work of the ministry, as shown in this report, should produce earnest inquiry, whether we are not growing lukewarm in the matter of educating young men for the work of the Christian Ministry. Instead of allowing our zeal to provide laborers for the great harvest to abate, we should rather seek to increase it. The foreign field is now claiming our prayerful consideration, and demanding laborers. In our own country, the great West, the South, the North, and the East are ready to welcome our missionaries. In the grand, glorious language of the Divine Master Himself, "The field is the world." "Occupy till I come."

The beneficiaries have all received their stipends punctually and have been paid up to date, and there remains a handsome balance in the Treasury. The Lord has graciously prospered this part of the work. And this too amid the financial pressure that still prevails, and, whilst we are informed by the public press, that the falling off in the contributions to the Presbyterian Board of Education is so great, that the appropriations promised by said Board must be reduced one-fourth. And for two years that Board has succeeded in meeting no more than three of its four quarterly payments, and is encumbered with a heavy debt. Surely, we may raise our Eben-Ezer, and exclaim, "Hitherto hath the Lord helped us."

Only three of the Classes have co-operated with your Board fully, in carrying forward this good work, and another Classis only in part.

At the present time, S. H. Eisenberg, D. H. Leader, S. L. Whitmore, F. W. Brown, L. M. Hensell, C. Gumbert, G. B. Resser, C. K. Kiesacker, and E. S. Hassler are receiving theological instruction in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, and W. W. Deatruck and A. A. Black in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

The Treasurer of the Board acknowledges the receipt of the following sums for Beneficiary Education, during the past Synodical year. The different pastoral charges are credited with the amounts contributed by each respectively; the aggregate paid during the year being given, omitting the items and dates of payment, viz. :

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mercersburg Classis.

Mercersburg Charge,	\$100.00
Chambersburg "	100.00
Bedford "	99.42
Waterstreet "	83.38
Greencastle "	70.24
Mont Alto "	69.54
Friend's Cove, "	66.67
St. Clairsville "	55.00
St. Thomas "	48.00
College Church "	40.00
Loudon "	34.90
Altoona "	34.50
Sulphur Spring "	20.00
Everett "	17.00
Yellow Creek "	12.00
Orbisonia "	10.00
St. John's of Chambersburg,	10.00
Middleburg Charge,	8.62
Grindstonehill "	7.20
Schellsburg "	5.38
Martinsburg "	5.16
Greenfield "	4.44
Huntingdon "	1.15
Amount,	<hr/> \$902.58

Maryland Classis.

Evangelical Ref. Church of Frederick,....	\$154.61
Manchester Charge,	40.75
Hagerstown "	30.75
Middletown "	30.00
First Church of Baltimore,	30.00
Third Church of Baltimore,	28.00
Jefferson Charge,	22.50
Mechanicstown "	20.50
Mount Moriah "	17.00
Boonsboro "	13.00
Clear Spring "	10.45
Burkettsville "	10.00
Cavetown "	8.00
Mount Pleasant "	7.00
St. Stephen's Church, Knoxville,	3.00
Amount,	<hr/> \$425.56

Virginia Classis.

Cash per Treasurer,	\$266.35
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Zion's Classis.

Cash per Treasurer,.....	\$100.00
Total receipts,	\$1694.49

Recapitulation. Dr.

October 16, 1877. Balance in Treasury,.....	\$169.44
Received from Mercersburg Classis,.....	902.58
" Maryland " 	425.56
" Virginia " 	266.35
" Zion's " 	100.00
Total,.....	\$1863.93

Contra. Cr.

Paid beneficiaries of Mercersburg Classis,.....	\$898.75
" Maryland " 	287.50
" Virginia " 	316.04
" Zion's " 	137.50
Postage, discount, stationery, &c.,	2.94
October 15, 1878. Balance in Treasury,.....	276.20
Total,.....	\$1863.93

Respectfully submitted,

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We hereby certify, that we have carefully audited the account of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct.

The foregoing Synopsis and Recapitulation are a faithful statement of the same. There is a balance in the Treasury, at this time, of \$276.20.

I. G. BROWN,
WM. I. STEWART,
Committee.

October 15, 1878.

II. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

To the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

BRETHREN:—The Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, respectfully present their annual report. The usual semi-annual and annual meetings of the Board have been held and the routine business transacted. The only important step we took was the employment of the same counsel engaged by the Trustees of Franklin and Marshall College, to prosecute and defend the interests of the Seminary in the matter of the Wilhelm bequest.

No additions have been received to the endowment fund, during the year. The financial condition of the Seminary is fully explained by the Treasurer's report.

Respectfully submitted,

D. W. GROSS, *President.*
EDW. J. ZAHM, *Secretary.*
JNO. B. ROTH, *Treasurer.*

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 1, 1878.

III. REPORT OF TREASURER OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

JOHN B. ROTH, TREASURER, IN ACCOUNT WITH LIBRARY FUND OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

DR.

1877, Amount of Principal,.....	\$2,069.96	
“ Oct. 1, For Balance due by Treasurer to date,.....	\$	103.90
“ “ 1, “ Interest A. B. Wingerd to Oct. 1, 1877,.....		23.56
1878, “ 22, “ “ E. J. Zahm, “		7.50
“ April 2, “ “ E. J. Zahm, April 1, 1878,.....		7.50
“ “ 15, “ “ A. B. Wingerd, 1, “		24.69
		<hr/>
		\$167.05

CR.

1877, October 27, By am't pd I. M. Stoddart & Co. Bill,....	\$	6.00
“ “ 27, “ “ A. Bendel, “ ...		5.32
“ Dec 13, “ “ F. W. Christern, “ ...		4.50
1878, March 2, “ “ A. H. Roffe & Co., “ ...		12.25
“ “ 11, “ “ I. M. Stoddart & Co., “ ...		6.00
“ April 4, “ “ A. Bendel, “ ...		6.75
“ May 10, “ “ F. W. Christern, “ ...		4.10
“ June 21, “ “ S. H. Zahm & Co., “ ...		9.30
“ August 12, “ “ F. A. Gasts, Ex. & chgs, “ ...		1.50
“ Sept. 13, “ “ A. Bendel, “ ...		6.10
“ “ 24, “ “ R. Clarke & Co., “ ...		4.10
		<hr/>
		65.92

“ Oct. 1, Balance in hands of Treasurer,..... \$101.13

Current Expense Account of Theological Seminary from October 1, 1877 to October 1, 1878.

CR.

For amount received as Interest on Endowment, Building and Pittsburg Professor Funds.....	\$	4970.66
1877, Oct. 1, By Balance due Treasurer,.....	\$1782.86	
1878, “ 1, “ Sundry payment made for vouchers,....	4297.17	
		<hr/>
“ “ 1, “ Balance due Treasurer,.....		1109.37
Col. interests due to same date,.....		1200.00

Smaltz Fund Account.

DR.

Amount of Principal,.....	\$5000.00	
1877, Oct. 26, Interest, P. Franke to Oct. 1877,.....		150.00
1878, April 1, “ “ “ April, 1878,.....		150.00
“ Sept. 13, “ I. Showalter in full,.....		19.00

DR.

1877, Oct. 1, By amount due to Treasurer to date,.....	\$	10.61
“ Nov. 17, “ “ paid per order No. 1,.....		100.00
“ Dec. 10, “ “ “ “ 2,.....		50.00
1878, Mch. 15, “ “ “ “ 3,.....		35.00
“ Apl. 18, “ “ “ “ 4,.....		65.00
“ Sept. 7, “ “ “ “ 5,.....		20.00
“ “ 24, “ “ “ “ 6,.....		20.00
“ “ 25, “ “ “ “ 7,.....		25.00
		<hr/>
		\$325.61

Amount Dr. down,..... 319.00

Amount due Treasurer, Oct. 1878..... \$6.61

Building Fund Account.

1877, Oct. 1, Amount reported to Board,	\$12,221.29
" " 1, To George Daniels, Note Paid,	\$25.00
" " 8, " I. N. Zimmerman, "	5.00
1878, July 20, " Jno. Laubach, "	9.76
" Aug. 19, " A. Wilhelm, "	10.00
	<hr/> 49.76
Total amount, Oct. 1, 1878,	\$12,271.05

Pittsburg Professor Fund Account.

1877, Oct. 1, Amount reported to Board,	\$ 1718.30
1878, " 1, Int. on \$1424.55 Principal of Notes collected,	85.47

Amount of Fund, October 4, 1878, \$1803.77

The Board directed the Treasurer to transfer the sum of interest to the Contingent Fund account.

EDW. J. ZAHM, *Rec. Sec.*

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 1, 1878.

Endowment Fund Account.

1877, Oct. 1, Amount reported to Board,	\$64,487.81
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No increase to Oct. 1, 1878. Only about \$60,000 dollars of this fund is interest bearing.

JNO. B. ROTH, *Treas.*

The undersigned, Auditing Committee, having examined the Treasurer's accounts, and compared his vouchers, find them correct.

WILLIAM A. WILT,
GEO. Z. KUNKLE.

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 1, 1878.

IV. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

RESPECTED BRETHREN:—The Board of Visitors take pleasure in reporting the continued prosperity of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa. The Institution was opened on the first Wednesday of September, 1877, all the professors being in attendance. Every department was regularly pursued during the whole course of the Seminary year. The following persons were admitted to the Junior class: Alfred F. Dreisbach, Jacob S. Hartzell, Jefferson E. Kerschner, William J. Kerschner, Charles F. Sontag, and Franklin Wetzell, all graduates of Franklin and Marshall College. The Faculty reports, that as regards Christian piety and diligent application to study, the tone of the Institution has been on a par with what it was in previous years.

The members of the Board attended the examinations at the close of the year. These examinations exhibited the diligence of the professors in imparting instruction and the progress of the students in their studies. It was the opinion of the Board that in several instances this progress was not just what might be expected, but as a whole the examinations were approved.

The following students, members of the Senior Class, having finished the whole course of study, were honorably dismissed from the Seminary and recommended for license to preach the gospel: Adam J. Bachman,

Henry E. Cook, John M. Evans, Benjamin B. Ferer, Frederick B. Hahn, Stephen S. Kohler, John H. Leinbach, Samuel M. Roeder, Daniel E. Rupley, John S. Wagner and William H. Xanders.

The whole number of students connected with the Seminary during the year was twenty-five.

Although it may not fall exactly within the province of this report, yet we are glad to be able to report that the members of the graduating class, all, with perhaps one or two exceptions, had found fields of labor before the present Seminary year opened. The harvest in the Reformed Church is by no means yet supplied with laborers. The number of ministers in proportion to the membership is much less than in other Protestant denominations. Efforts, therefore, should not be relaxed to seek out and encourage young men of the proper qualifications and talents to enter the Seminary with the view of preparing themselves for the holy ministry. When we consider the yearly mortality in the ranks of the ministry, the large size of our charges, and especially the great missionary field yet to be occupied by the Reformed Church, the conclusion is clear that the number of students for the ministry should not diminish, but rather increase. At the same time the Board is of the opinion that the qualifications of the candidates should be kept up to a high standard. The age requires that the ministry should possess not only proper spiritual qualifications, which is the primary desideratum, but also thorough literary culture.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL, *Sec'y of Board.*

V. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom had been referred the Report of the Board of Education, the Annual Reports of the Board of Trustees of the Treasurer, and of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., reported, during Saturday Forenoon's Session, which was received, amended, adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

Your Committee on Education would beg leave to offer the following as their report. We had referred to us for consideration the Report of the Board of Education of this Synod; and the Reports of the Board of Trustees, of the Treasurer, and of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa. From these documents we learn that the Board of Education of this Synod had under its care, during the past year, fifteen beneficiary students preparing for the Holy Ministry. Of this number four have completed their full course of study, and have been licensed to preach the Gospel. Of the remaining eleven, five are receiving instruction in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, three in Mercersburg College, two in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, and one in Franklin and Marshall College.

There were twenty-five students in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, during the past scholastic year. Eleven of these have graduated, and been licensed to preach the Gospel.

The financial condition of the Treasury of our Board of Education, as well as that of the Treasury of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster is healthy and encouraging.

The Board of Education of this Synod and the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, both call attention to the fact, that

there is a decrease in the number of students preparing for the work of the ministry. Hence, we recommend the following resolutions for adoption :

Resolved, That our pastors and consistories be directed to make efforts to increase the number of pious, talented young men to prepare themselves for the Gospel Ministry.

Resolved, further, That the cause of Beneficiary Education be commended to the several Classes and the churches under their care.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. ESCHBACH.
H. I. COMFORT,
F. S. LINDAMAN,
LOUIS MARKELL,
SAM'L. B. SNIVELY,
Committee.

The Standing Committee on Overtures. under item 3, reported the resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters as a member of the Board of Education. The resignation was accepted, and the Standing Committee on Nominations was instructed to make provision for the filling of the vacancy, as well as nominate candidates to serve for three years, in the place of those, whose term of office expires at this meeting of Synod, by limitation. At the election for members of the different Boards, held during Monday Afternoon's session, Rev. J. A. Hoffheins was elected for one year, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters, and Revs. I. G. Brown, Wm. C. Cremer and S. N. Callender for the term of three years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. I G. Brown,	.....3 years.....	October, 1881.
“ Wm. C. Cremer,	.....3 “	“ 1881.
“ S. N. Callender,	.....3 “	“ 1881.
“ Wm. M. Deatrick,	.....2 “	“ 1880.
“ J. S. Kieffer,	.....2 “	“ 1880.
“ J. W. Santee,	.....2 “	“ 1880.
“ Wm. Goodrich,	.....1 “	“ 1879.
“ J. A. Hoffheins,	.....1 “	“ 1879.
Elder J. Heyser,	.....1 “	“ 1879.

XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Home Missions were laid before Synod, and referred to the Standing Committee on Missions. Items 4 and 5 of the Report of the Stand-

ing Committee on Minutes of Synod were likewise referred to the same Committee. A letter was also received from the Rev. C. Cort of Iowa Classis, and referred to the same Committee, in which he earnestly entreats the Synod to redeem its promise of \$500.00 to the Missionary Board of Iowa Classis, to be sent through the Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the General Synod, as made at the Synod of York in 1876.

The Standing Committee on Missions reported, during the session of Saturday Forenoon, and their report was received, amended, and adopted. These Reports are as follows :

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Potomac.

REV. FATHERS AND BRETHREN :—We herewith transmit to you the annual reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States. These reports present an encouraging view of our Missionary operations, notwithstanding the financial embarrassment of the country, and show that the Lord has prospered our work.

The Treasurer's report shows, that our collections this year have been \$1500 in excess of the last year. The indebtedness to Missionaries which was about \$7000, at the close of last year, has been reduced by direct payment by the Board, or through the Classes in whose bounds some of these Missions have been located, to \$3000.

We have been compelled to borrow \$800 to meet pressing wants of our Missionaries on the Pacific coast. We placed, as seemed to be the wish of the three Synods, a Missionary in charge of St. Stephen's church, organized by the Maryland Classis, in the city of Washington, D. C. This mission costs the Board necessarily more than any other, and will consequently increase our expenditure. We have reason to believe the liberality of the Maryland Classis will respond to meet this increase.

We feel assured that if one-tenth of all our churches shall introduce the plan of auxiliary societies, as suggested by the Board, instead of \$1500, we shall have from four to five thousand in excess next year to report.

We shall need this coming year \$10,000 to successfully carry on our work, independent of the \$3000 still due the missionaries. Last year we asked of the Synods \$16,000 ; this year, in all, we ask only \$13,000. And we now respectfully request the Synods to make provision for this amount, in such a way as they may deem best.

We would suggest that the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States provide,.....	\$7,500
Synod of the Potomac,.....	3,500
Synod of Pittsburgh,.....	2,000

\$13,000

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *President.*

W. H. H. SNYDER, *Secretary.*

II. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, the Pittsburgh Synod, and the Synod of the Potomac.

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN:—In presenting my first annual report as Superintendent of Missions, in the bounds of the Eastern Synods herein addressed, I enumerate first the different missions under your care in the several States, in which they are located, so as to present a Geographical view of the territory embraced in the missionary field.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Catasauqua.—This mission reports a membership of ninety-five members. Confirmed nine. Received by renewal of profession three. Baptized twenty-two. There is a prospect of soon effecting an arrangement by which this mission will be connected with neighboring congregations, and so will not need any further assistance from the Board. It has a heavy debt, which interferes with its success and prosperity very seriously. Pastor John J. Crist. Appropriation last year \$350. This year \$300.

Allentown.—The missionary reports the mission in a prosperous condition, and expects soon to lay the corner-stone of a new Chapel. Number of members 70, received by confirmation 5, by certificate 23, dismissed 30, S. S. scholars 130. Pastor John J. Fritzinger. Appropriation \$300.

Easton.—Members 75. Received by baptism 18 and by confirmation 1. S. S. scholars 94. This mission worships in their own chapel on College Hill, upon which, however, there is still some debt resting. It is in prosperous condition. Pastor D. Y. Heisler. Appropriation \$200.

Reading.—The mission congregation in this city have erected a fine large church and parsonage valued at \$22,000, but there is a debt of \$10,000 remaining on it, which they are making efforts to reduce yearly. The membership numbers 290. S. S. scholars 325. Additions during the year by letter and confirmation 41. Baptisms 50. The membership are generally poor in this world's goods, but willing and liberal according to their ability. The pastor labors under a heavy burden of care and responsibility, yet hopefully. Pastor John W. Steinmetz. Appropriation this year \$300. Last year \$400.

West Philadelphia.—This mission has prospered during the year. The membership has increased, and prospects seemed fair for its final success. Through inadequate support and the cares and burdens thereby entailed, the pastor's courage and health have given away, and he now thinks it will be necessary for him to leave the field. We can only hope that help may come in time to save the interest from serious disaster. Pastor J. S. Sandersloot. Appropriation last year \$300.

Harrisburg Second Reformed Church.—Members 100. Added during the year 16. Dismissed 3. S. S. scholars 170. Value of church property \$7,000, debt \$120. The condition of this mission is prosperous. Pastor George W. Snyder.

Harrisburg Zwingle Church—German.—Members 65. Additions 7. S. S. scholars 45. Church property valued at \$7,000, with a debt of \$1800. Pastor (recently resigned) W. T. Gerhart. Appropriation last year \$250. Vacant.

Columbia.—This mission has steadily prospered under the efficient labors of its present pastor. The membership now numbers 155. Additions

during the year 16. Baptisms 19. S. S. scholars 185. The congregation owns a church building and parsonage valued at \$12,000, with a debt of \$1700 resting upon it. Pastor C. Clever. Appropriation \$50.

Wilkesbarre.—The German and English interests in this city are now united in one congregation under the care of a pastor who preaches German and English. The membership numbers about 250 with a growing S. school. They own an eligible church property centrally located, but are burdened also by a pretty large debt. The prospects of the mission are good. Pastor F. K. Levan. Appropriation \$400.

Lock Haven.—Members 40. S. S. scholars 80. Additions 4. Baptisms 7. The mission has purchased the Second Presbyterian Church building, and are thus provided with a house of worship. It is struggling through many difficulties and making progress in the midst of many discouragements. Pastor Isaac S. Stahr. Appropriation \$300.

Wilkinsburg and East Liberty.—The missionaries at this place, Rev. J. M. Souder and Rev. H. D. Darbaker, have been absent from these points during several months of the past summer, partly on account of their health, but their places have been supplied by Rev. W. F. Lichliter without any additional expense to the missions or the Board. They have both returned to their charges, with improved health, and they report the condition of the missions as prosperous, although they both have suffered much from the times. It is a matter of great thankfulness and encouragement that so many congregations are growing up in and around Pittsburgh, where but a comparatively short time ago, we were without a single church. Bro. Darbaker, although improved in health, expects to withdraw from the mission at East Liberty the 1st of January next. Appropriation to East Liberty \$300, to Wilkinsburg \$250.

Orbisonia.—Members 96. Additions 8. Baptisms 14. This mission is prospering. A new church is soon to be dedicated. Pastor J. M. Schick. Appropriation \$150.

Sulphur Spring, Bedford Co.—The annual report from this mission speaks encouragingly. The charge is engaged in paying off the debt on church and parsonage. Members 145. Baptisms 11, and a catechetical class preparing for confirmation. Pastor Wm. Aug. Gring. Appropriation \$200.

Chambersburg (German).—This mission is at present vacant, but it is expected that it may soon be supplied again with a regular pastor. Old appropriation \$75.

Duncannon.—Members 130. Baptisms 18. Additions by confirmation, certificate, &c. 14. S. S. scholars 175. The condition of the mission is reported as prosperous. The people are faithful, and the pastor is active in improving the condition of the charge, which, were it not for a debt on the church, at Marysville, might be expected before long to become self-supporting. Pastor U. H. Heilman. Appropriation \$225.

Shenandoah.—This mission, during part of the year, was without a pastor. It is, however, again supplied, and is reported to be in an encouraging condition. Pastor J. G. Neff. Appropriation \$300.

Allegheny.—The mission congregation in this place has been called to pass through many trials. At present it is again without a pastor, and its prospects are not very encouraging. The Superintendent visited it, and preached for the congregation, and the Board will do all it can to aid in promoting its interest and welfare. Vacant.

Titusville.—This mission, an important one among the foreign Germans, continues to prosper. During the year there was a change of pastors. It is served at present by ——. Former appropriation \$150.

Scottdale.—This point, during the past year, has been joined with other congregations, and thus passed out of the care of the Board. The missionary has taken charge of a new field of labor, within the bounds of Westmoreland Classis, including the mission at Scottdale. Its appropriation was \$200.

VIRGINIA.

Winchester.—This mission, which consists of two congregations, is moving forward about as usual, and making a sure and steady progress. The membership at Winchester is 77, at Smithfield 28, in all 115. Additions during the year by confirmation and letter 10. Baptisms 10. Each congregation has a church, the one at Smithfield being a union church. There is also a parsonage, on which some debt is still resting. Pastor Charles G. Fisher. Appropriation \$300.

Middlebrook.—This mission has been taken under the care of the Board, during the past year. Rev. A. J. Whitmore is laboring in it with much self-denial, and with good success. It is the farthest point southward in the Virginia Valley, and is very worthy of aid. The Superintendent visited the mission during the year, and was encouraged with its good prospects. During the summer one of the congregations erected a new church, which it is believed will strengthen the mission, and open up the way to make it self-supporting. Appropriation \$150.

DELAWARE.

Wyoming.—It is but a few years since the Reformed Church entered this State. The mission at Wyoming continues to advance in prosperity, although it is separated from the populous sections of our Church, and must act as a pioneer mission in a new field. The prospect of a new mission on the Eastern Shore of Maryland will bring to it fellowship and sympathy. Pastor E. H. Dittenbacher. Appropriation \$300.

MARYLAND.

Cumberland (German).—This mission has a membership of 150. Additions during the year 12. During the last four years the additions were 88. Sunday school in a prosperous condition. Church property is worth \$5,000, on which, however, there is a debt of \$2500. During the past year the mission secured for itself a cemetery which is a great benefit to it. \$700 were paid for local purposes, and \$50 for benevolent purposes. This is an encouraging mission. Pastor F. R. Schwedes. Appropriation last year \$300; this year \$250.

Eastern Shore.—During the year a new congregation was organized at Ridgeway, Caroline County, with 87 members, by our missionary at Wyoming, which expects soon to erect a new church. The whole peninsula is an exceedingly interesting field for missionary labor.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

The English mission in Washington has at length been organized and obtained the services of a regular pastor. The congregation numbers between 20 and 25 members, six having been added since the present pastor took charge, and as many more are expected to be received shortly. The importance of this mission has been made known to the Church, in various ways, and it has pledged to it the interest and support of the Synods, and especially the Classis in whose bounds it is located. Members 21. Additions 6. Baptisms, infant, 4. Sunday school scholars 80. Unconfirmed 9. Pastor Dr. George B. Russell. Appropriation \$1200.

Napa City.—With the approbation of the Board, Rev. Frederick Fox has withdrawn from this mission, where he has been laboring for a number of years, the fruits of which are the erection of a new church, and the gathering together of an interesting and pious congregation. The prospects now are, that the mission will secure the services of a suitable man, at an early day. There are many openings for missions among the Germans in California, and a number of new missions might be started if we had the money. Appropriation last year \$310.

The Rev. Machtshheim is teaching at Walla Walla, in Washington Territory, and laboring with much zeal to organize a mission at this place. Another missionary is expected to enter this field soon, with the view of starting a mission. Oregon and Washington territory are also exceedingly promising fields for missionary labor.

Since I undertook the office of the Superintendency, my labors have been arduous. Knowing the importance of increasing the contributions throughout the Church, to the cause of missions, it has been one of my principal objects, during the year, to visit the older charges, and, by preaching on the subject, and consultation with pastors, to stir up new interest. An effort was made at the opening of the year to secure special collections in order to meet the immediate pressing wants of our missionaries. Quite a number of congregations responded to this call. So, also, I have aimed to turn to account the usual harvest services for this cause.

visiting and preaching in a number of charges. In this way I have been engaged pretty much every Sunday, preaching two and three times, and occasionally during the week. In connection with my services in this way I have occasionally delivered scientific lectures, devoting the proceeds to the cause of missions, in one form or another. My labors have been thus far chiefly in East Pennsylvania, where the numerical strength and wealth of the Church are so great in proportion to other sections.

I have urged upon pastors and congregations the importance of carrying out the recommendations of the Board, and Council, in reference to organizing missionary societies. In many congregations this plan has been adopted with good results. Contributions to missions will never be what they should and may be without any special burden, until they become systematic. If we can reach all our members and secure something, however small, regularly from each member and each Sunday school scholar, the treasury would always be adequate to the demands made upon it. Here lies in great part the secret of success. Any method that will aid in reaching this result is highly to be commended. It is believed that the organization of missionary societies according to the plan submitted will do much towards bringing about this result. I think it would have a good effect if the Synods would add the weight of their authority and influence in enjoining this matter upon all the charges. In these times of financial depression, it is a matter of life and death for our missions to keep up the necessary amount of funds; and the only way to secure this is to reach all the members. It is believed that the special efforts put forth will show good results in a larger amount contributed this year, than last year, but the movement in this direction is only begun, and it may reasonably be expected that the contributions will go on increasing for years to come without additional burden on the churches. In our work in this direction we have looked to the future.

I have also visited a number of our missions in the Virginia Valley, in Delaware, up the Susquehanna, &c., and endeavoured to ascertain their condition, and wants, as well as to carry to them encouragement. A beginning for a new mission has been made at Ridgeway on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. The congregation is at present supplied by the missionary at Wyoming, Delaware, but before long it will need the services of a missionary of its own. I have explored a new field at Great Bend, in the northern part of Pennsylvania, on the north branch of the Susquehanna, where there is a growing settlement of our people who are ready for Church organization. It is believed that this point and Binghampton, New York, which I also visited, may constitute a missionary charge.

It will be seen from the report that the English mission in Washington city has at length been established, and a pastor settled over it. Dr. G. B. Russell has been laboring there since January last. It will no doubt require time and patience, faith and hard labor, to bring this enterprise to a successful issue, but our experience in such cities as Pittsburgh, and Cincinnati, should encourage the Church, to persevere in faith and hope.

The Reformed Church is gradually gaining a foothold on the Pacific Slope. In California and in Oregon we now have churches where a few years ago we were unknown. In some places the progress has been slow, in others more encouraging. Only those who are in close communication with the missions know the many trials and difficulties through which they must pass before they become successfully established. But this is their gracious baptism.

The Church at large needs to have revived throughout all its borders a missionary spirit. Instead of fearing that we may have more candidates

for the ministry, than can find fields of labor, the Church ought to pray for more laborers, especially for a class of young men, full of zeal, and a spirit of self-denial, who may not only be willing but eager to go forth and labor, as our forefathers in the ministry in this country labored, to lay the foundations for the future in new and destitute fields. Might it not be well for our schools of the prophets to pay special attention to this side of ministerial preparation in their training of young men for the holy office?

Just as he was preparing to gather up the fruits of his labors, and bring the whole personally before the several Synods, the Superintendent was overtaken, in the providence of God with a serious and somewhat prolonged spell of sickness, so that the present report must be prepared by other friendly hands. He regrets very much that he cannot be present at all the meetings of the Synods and bring before them personally the fruits of his observation and experience in urging forward a cause which lies so near the heart of the Church. But he feels assured that any disadvantage which may result from his illness, in these respects, will be more than made up by the warm-hearted zeal and rich experience of those in the Board and Council with whom he has labored so harmoniously and pleasantly during the past year. With the prayer that the blessing of the great Head of the Church may abundantly rest upon the missionary work of the Church, he closes, and hereby respectfully offers this imperfect report of his labors.

THEODORE APPEL,
Superintendent.

III. REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF HOME MISSIONS.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States

I would most respectfully submit the following Statement of moneys received and disbursed for Missions during the year ending October 8th, 1878.

SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

Received from Classis of Philadelphia.....	\$182.86
“ “ “ “ Tohickon.....	739.27
“ “ “ “ Goshenhoppen.....	977.11
“ “ “ “ East Pennsylvania.....	1428.99
“ “ “ “ Lebanon.....	964.68
“ “ “ “ Lancaster.....	577.25
“ “ “ “ East Susquehanna.....	323.95
“ “ “ “ West Susquehanna.....	582.40
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Total from Synod of the U. S.....	\$5755.91

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Received from Classis of Zion.....	\$ 724.63
“ “ “ “ Maryland.....	1309.72
“ “ “ “ Mercersburg.....	447.60
“ “ “ “ Virginia.....	128.00
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Total from Synod of the Potomac.....	\$2609.95

SYNOD OF PITTSBURG.

Received from Treasurer of Synod.....	\$1076.70
“ “ Classis “ Clarion.....	8.00
“ “ “ “ Saint Paul.....	45.83
“ “ “ “ Somerset.....	65.97
Total from Synod of Pittsburg.....	\$1196.50

MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES.

Received from Classis of San Francisco.....	\$ 20.05
“ “ a friend in Michigan.....	5.00
“ “ Loans.....	795.50
Balance in Treasury, Oct. 8, 1877.....	570.84
Total from all sources.....	\$1391.89
	\$10953.75

DISBURSEMENTS.

Orders of Board paid during year.....	\$10578.40
Paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis.....	135.00
Balance in Treasury.....	240.35
	\$10953.75

It is gratifying to note that the sum contributed by the church for Missions, during the year just closed, is about \$1500 in excess of last year's contributions, but still inadequate to pay off the indebtedness of the Board to the Missionaries. It is earnestly hoped that the Great Head of the Church will dispose His professed people to greater liberality during the next year, so that at its close the Board may find itself out of debt.

Very Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

Harrisburg, Oct. 8, 1878.

The undersigned, Auditing Committee of the Board of Missions, have examined the foregoing account of Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of said Board, comparing it with his vouchers and find it correct.

W. H. H. SNYDER,
D. W. GROSS.

Harrisburg, Oct. 8, 1878.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to offer the following as their report :

They have had the following documents placed in their hands for consideration, namely—the Report of the Board of Missions, the Report of the Superintendent of Missions, the Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, the letter of Rev. C Cort, and items 4 and 5 of the Report of the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod.

From these official reports, your Committee learns, that there has been contributed for missions, during the past year, the following sums: Synod of the United States \$5755.91; Synod of the Potomac \$2630.00; Synod of Pittsburgh \$1196.50; and miscellaneous sources \$1371.84. Total \$10,953.75. Disbursed by order of the Board \$10,578.40; paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis \$135.00: leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$240.35.

The indebtedness of the Board has been reduced, during the year, from \$7,000 to \$3,000, which is indeed very encouraging. The Superintendent reports twenty-eight missions under the care of the Tri-Synod Board, and these are almost all in a prosperous condition. Your Committee can but give an imperfect synopsis of the work, and from which it is evident we have much, as a Church, to encourage us to go forward, and, with renewed zeal, to gather the harvest, that God, in His gracious providence, has caused to ripen in the field of our Church.

In regard to items 4 and 5 of the Report of the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod referred to the Committee, we would report, as follows: We notice from the Superintendent's Report, that there are two missions in the Valley of Virginia, Winchester and Middlebrook. The latter was received under the care of the Board, during last year. They receive an annual appropriation of \$450.00. We cheerfully report also, that the attention of the Board and Superintendent has, in a measure, been bestowed upon this field.

In reference to the action of Synod last year, in regard to the Mission in Washington City, your Committee would recommend that this Synod proceed to take some definite action in relation to this important mission. The Committee recommends for adoption the following resolutions, viz.:

Resolved, That this Synod, in its judgment, deems it necessary for the success of the Washington mission, that the sum of \$2000, at least, be raised in the bounds of this Synod, for the purchasing of a lot and the erection of a chapel, in addition to the \$3,000 already assumed by the Maryland Classis; and, also that this sum be apportioned to the other Classes, as follows: Zion's Classis \$1,000, Mercersburg Classis \$900, Virginia Classis \$50, North Carolina Classis \$25, and San Francisco Classis \$25.

Resolved, further, That such measures be adopted by those Classes, at their next annual meetings, as, in their judgment, will most speedily secure these respective amounts.

Resolved, also, That in addition to the amount assumed by this Synod, the Board of Missions be requested to issue an appeal to the entire Church, thus affording every member of the Church, baptized as well as confirmed, an opportunity to give towards the building of a Chapel for the Washington City mission.

The Board of Missions will need the sum of \$13,000, this coming year, to sustain its missions. The amount assigned to this Synod, for this purpose, is \$3,500.00.

The adoption of the following resolutions, in this connection, is recommended, to wit:

Resolved, That this sum be apportioned among the different Classes of this Synod, as follows: Zion's Classis \$1,100, Maryland Classis \$1,300, Mercersburg Classis \$1,100, Virginia Classis \$300, North Carolina Classis \$100, and San Francisco Classis \$50—making \$3,950.00.

Resolved, That the Synod hold a missionary meeting on Monday evening of the present sessions; that the President of the Board of Home Missions preside on the occasion; that Revs. Dr. Russell and A. C. Whitmer make addresses on the subject of Home Missions; that Revs. A. D. Gring and A. Wanner deliver addresses on Foreign Missions; and that a collection be lifted on the occasion for the cause of missions.

As to the communication of the Rev. C. Cort, in regard to the promise of Synod at York, Pa., in 1876, with reference to the appropriation of \$500 for missions in Iowa Classis, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following:

Resolved, That this Synod requests all the pastors belonging to it, to take up a special collection for the payment of the implied obligations, made at the Synod of York, in 1876, to missions in Iowa Classis and missions in the Valley of Virginia, the money to be sent to the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions; and that any sum in excess of the required amount go into the Treasury of said Board and be applied to its uses.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM GOODRICH,
D. M. WHITMORE,
F. J. SAUERBER,
JOHN STOCKMAN,
JOHN BOWMAN,
Committee.

In this connection, the following additional resolutions were adopted, viz. :

Resolved, That all moneys, which shall be raised within the bounds of this Synod for the erection of a Chapel for the use of the mission congregation in Washington City, shall be sent to the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, to be used for the purpose designated.

Resolved, further, That the Maryland Classis be, and is hereby requested to appoint a Committee, who shall, conjointly with the mission congregation in Washington City, regulate the purchasing of a lot and the building of a chapel for said mission, and the committee so appointed by Maryland Classis shall have power to draw on the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions for such funds as shall have been placed in his hands for this specific purpose.

During the consideration of the Report of the Standing Committee on Missions, the item in reference to the interests of missions in the State of Virginia was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. S. S. Miller, A. G. Dole, A. H. Kremer, and Elders D. B. Russell and W. A. Wilt. This Committee reported, during the session of Monday Afternoon. Their report was received and adopted, and is as follows :

The Special Committee to whom was referred the item in the Report of the Standing Committee on Missions, having reference to the mission work within the bounds of the Virginia Classis, would offer the following report. The Committee, having conferred with the brethren of Virginia Classis, and having considered the interests of the Church within said Classical domain, would suggest the following :—

1st. That, in view of the hopeful future of the missions at Winchester and Middlebrook, this Synod commend these missions to the continued fostering care of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions.

2nd. That the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions be requested to place, as soon as practicable, a suitable person in the field of Virginia Classis to explore the territory; and also, that the Board determine the time in which the work shall be done, and the compensation to be given for the work.

3rd. That, as soon as one or more promising fields are found, the Tri-

Synodic Board of Missions be requested to appropriate, in addition to what may be raised by these fields, such amount as may be needed to support a missionary there.

Respectfully submitted,

SIMON S. MILLER,
A. G. DOLE,
A. H. KREMER,
D. B. RUSSELL,
W. A. WILT,
Committee.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 2, that \$4,500 had been apportioned, at last annual meeting, among the several Classes of this Synod, for the work of Home Missions. The Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Mission shows, that none of the Classes fully met their apportionments for Missions.

The Synod approved the General Synod's recommendation of the feasibility of at once organizing missionary societies in all the congregations throughout the Church, and referred the matter to the several Classes for their favorable action.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 3, reported the resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters as a member of the Board of Missions. The resignation was accepted, and the Standing Committee on Nominations was instructed to make provision for filling the vacancy, as well as nominate candidates to serve for four years, in the place of those whose term of service expired October 1st, 1878, by limitation. At the election for members of the different Boards, held during the sessions of Monday Afternoon, Rev. Ellis N. Kremer was elected for two years, to fill the vacancy caused by the resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters, and Rev. J. O. Miller and Elder Wm. A. Wilt were re-elected, to serve for four years, as members of the Synodic Board of Missions.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. J. O. Miller,	.....4 years,	.....October 1, 1882
Elder Wm A Wilt,	.....4 "	....." 1, 1882
Rev. A. H. Kremer,	.....3 "	....." 1, 1881
Elder G. S. Griffith,	.....3 "	....." 1, 1881
Rev. E. R. Eschbach,	.....2 "	....." 1, 1880
Rev. Ellis N. Kremer,	.....2 "	....." 1, 1880
Elder Henry Wirt,	.....1 "	....." 1, 1879

On Monday Evening a very interesting missionary meeting was held, according to the programme proposed by the Standing Committee on Missions. Upwards of Two Hundred Dollars were paid in

cash or pledged towards aiding in the erection of a new church edifice in the Middlebrook mission, in the Valley of Virginia, rapidly approaching completion. A collection for Missions was also lifted, in addition, amounting to some twenty dollars.

FOREIGN MISSIONS.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 4, reported a communication from the Board of Foreign Missions, stating that said Board had appointed the Licentiate Ambrose D. Gring, a member of this Synod, as Missionary to Japan, and also asking Synod's hearty co-operation in the work of Foreign Missions.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, under item 4, reported the reference by Zion's Classis to the Synod of the request of the Board of Foreign Missions addressed to said Classis, that constitutional arrangements be made for the ordination of the Licentiate Ambrose D. Gring. Zion's Classis requested that this Synod determine the place and time of ordination, and make the necessary arrangements. The whole matter was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. J. A. Peters, J. O. Miller, A. Spangler, and Elders W. A. Wilt and G. S. Griffith. This committee reported, as follows, which was received and adopted:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee to whom have been referred the communication from the Secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions, and the Overture from Zion's Classis in regard to the ordination of the Licentiate Ambrose D. Gring, who has been appointed by the Board of Foreign Missions, as Missionary to Japan, beg leave to offer for your adoption the following resolutions, to wit:

I. *Resolved*, That the action of the Board of Foreign Missions, in the appointment of Mr. Gring to the work of missions in Japan, be approved by this Synod.

II. *Resolved*, That this Synod, in compliance with the request of the Board, coming to us through the action of Zion's Classis, make provision for the ordination of Mr. Gring to the Holy Ministry; and, moreover, requests the Synod of the United States to allow the ordination service to be held, during its approaching sessions, at Easton, Pa.

III. *Resolved*, That the cause of Foreign Missions be duly presented, at the missionary meeting of this Synod, if such meeting be appointed to be held.

IV. *Resolved*, That the Foreign Missionary work be earnestly commended to our churches as an object worthy of their prayers, and especially the progress and success of the Missionary in his labors, who has just been commissioned by the Board of Foreign Missions.

V. *Resolved*, That the cause of Foreign Missions be cordially recom-

mended to our people and congregations as an object eminently worthy of their confidence and pecuniary help.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. PETERS,
J. O. MILLER,
AARON SPANGLER,
G. S. GRIFFITH,
W. A. WILT,
Committee.

At the close of the missionary services on Monday Evening, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That we as a Synod do now approach a throne of mercy, and beseech our kind, heavenly Father to bestow His richest blessing upon our dear Brother, and to spread over him the wings of His protecting love and favor, and to endow him abundantly with every needful gift and grace for his responsible work.

The Synod accordingly engaged in special prayer and supplication in behalf of the Missionary and his important work, who is to go forth, in due time as Foreign Missionary to Japan. These truly solemn and impressive services were conducted by the President of Synod, who led the Synod at the throne of heavenly grace, for a short time, in fervent prayer in behalf of Missionary Gring and his blessed work.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

1. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his Annual Report to Synod, which was received, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows :

LOUIS MARKELL, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac :*

DR.

October 18, 1877,	To balance in Treasury,	\$126.40
" 23, "	To cash, Missionary Collection,	26.31
May 16, 1878,	To cash of Mercersburg Classis,	80.00
June 5, "	" Maryland Classis,	75.00
August 3, "	" North Carolina Classis,	25.00
Sept. 12, "	" Zion's Classis,	80.00
October 18, "	" Virginia Classis,	25.00
Making.....		\$437.71

CONTRA. CR.

November 3, 1877,	by cash paid Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of Home Missions,	\$ 26.31
January 2, 1878,	By cash paid Small & Welsh for printing Minutes,	120.87

January 2, 1878, By cash paid Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk, expenses,.....	\$ 19.60
May 16, 1878, By cash paid Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Salary as Stated Clerk,.....	75.00
October 18, 1878, By cash paid for freight on Minutes of General Synod,.....	9.85
October 18, 1878, By balance, cash on hand,.....	186.08
Making.....	\$487.71

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Standing Committee on Finance reported, during the session of Monday Afternoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows, viz. :

The Committee on Finance beg leave to report, that they have examined the Treasurer's Report, with accompanying vouchers, and find it to be correct. There remains in the hands of the Treasurer a balance of \$186.-08. To meet the estimated current expenses of this Synod, and to provide for one half of the assessment (\$130.00) laid upon this Synod by the late General Synod, the Committee recommends, that the sum of \$390.00 be assessed upon the several Classes, as follows :

Zion's Classis,.....	\$110.00
Mercersburg Classis,	110.00
Maryland Classis,	110.00
Virginia Classis,.....	80.00
North Carolina Classis,.....	80.00
Making.....	\$390.00

Respectfully submitted,

J. C. BOWMAN,
D. N. DITTMAN,
W. H. HERBERT,
URIAS RAMSBURG,
J. G. LINGENFELTER,
Committee.

Item 6 of the Report of the Standing Committee on the Minutes of Synod, laid on the table at the time of considering said Report, was adopted, the Treasurer's Report showing that all the Classes had paid their assessments for contingent expenses.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of General Synod, reported, under item 9, an assessment by the General Synod upon the Synod of the Potomac of \$260.00, for Contingent Fund of General Synod.

On motion, the amount was accepted, and the Standing Committee on Finance was instructed to apportion one half of it upon the several Classes ; the other half to be provided for, in like manner, next year.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod presented their annual report to Synod, which was received and approved, and is as follows :

The Board of Trustees of Synod beg leave to report, as follows :—Your Board held two meetings during the year that has just ended. Rev. J. O. Miller was chosen *President*, and Rev. E. R. Eschbach, *Secretary*. Owing to sickness in the family of the agent of Synod, Rev. M. H. Sangree, nothing was done towards liquidating the remaining indebtedness of \$818 87, reported last year on the loan of \$2,000 for the relief of the Printing Establishment. So that this amount with interest for the year is still unpaid. Three hundred dollars of this amount, at least, is already subscribed, and will shortly be paid over. We have authorized the agent to prosecute the work for another year, with the hope, that, by the close thereof, he may secure the balance needed to pay off said indebtedness.—We hope the Synod will commend this agent to the churches, and solicit especially the co-operation of the pastors and consistories, that have not yet assisted in liquidating this claim, by securing further subscriptions.

The term of Elder Louis Markell, as a member of the Board, will expire January 1st, 1879.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *President*.

At the election held for members of the several Boards of Synod, Elder H. Wirt Schriver was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder H. Wirt Schriver,.....	5 years,.....	January 1, 1884
Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrich.....	4 “	“ 1, 1883
Lewis H. Steiner, M. D.....	3 “	“ 1, 1882
Rev. J. O. Miller,.....	2 “	“ 1, 1881
Rev. E. R. Eschbach,.....	1 “	“ 1, 1880

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

Nothing took place under this head.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its fifth Annual Report, during the session of Friday Morning, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

The Sunday-school Board report, that they have made suitable arrangements for the Friday Evening Sunday-school Meeting of the Synod, and ask, that a similar meeting be ordered to be held, on Friday Evening of the next sessions of Synod. The Board has also prepared a letter to the Sunday-school Board of the Synod of the United States, urging the publication of a larger lesson paper, which shall contain lessons for three grades of scholars. In regard to the Manual, which the Synod had for several years in view, the Board desires to say, that, for various reasons, we have not seen our way clear to lay hold of this work, and now respectfully ask, that we be relieved of it.

The Treasurer of the Board has in hand \$34.00, for the use of the Board, received at different times by collections.

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. WHITMER,
J. W. SANTEE,
A. R. KREMER,
G. S. GRIFFITH,

At the election held for members of the different Boards, Rev. A. C. Whitmer was re-elected a member of the Board for the term of five years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. A. C. Whitmer,	5 years,	October, 1883
" J. W. Santee,	4 "	" 1882
" A. R. Kremer,	3 "	" 1881
" W. K. Zieber,	2 "	" 1880
Elder G. S. Griffith,	1 year,	" 1879

The Sunday-school meeting was held on Friday Evening, as appointed, and the services took place agreeably to the programme of the Board, as given in the Report of the Standing Committee on Religious Services, save that two of the selected speakers failed to appear. The Report of the Sunday-school Board disposed of item 11 of the Report of the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod, laid on the table, at the time of acting on said report, until the Sunday-school Board report.

With reference to item 9 of the same Report, which had been similarly disposed of until the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes report, it was ascertained that Zion's, Maryland, and Mercersburg Classes had taken action favorable to the organization of Sunday-school Conventions.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Standing Committee on Overtures reported, under item 6, a petition from Revs. J. Gantenbein and J. Muellhaupt of San Francisco Classis, resident in the State of Oregon, requesting the Synod to make provision for the organization of a new Classis out of the territory of the San Francisco Classis, lying north of the State of California.

The letter of the brethren was read, and the matter was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. A. J. Heller, Wm. R. H. Deatrich, S. N. Callender, and Elders A. R. Schnebly and P. Middlekauff. This committee submitted its report during the session of Friday Afternoon, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows :

Your Committee, to whom was referred the communication of Revs. J. Gantenbein and J. Muellhaupt, requesting the Synod to make provision to organize a new Classis on the Pacific Coast, north of California, would report the following :

1. This request comes from two members of the San Francisco Classis, and not from the Classis itself.

2. The Constitution of the Church, in Article 63, last clause, provides, that "an existing Classis cannot be dissolved, nor any part of it united with another, without its own consent."

We, therefore, recommend the following resolutions for adoption :

Resolved, That the request of the Brethren Gantenbein and Muellhaupt be granted, subject to the consent of the San Francisco Classis.

Resolved, That, in case the San Francisco Classis shall give its consent to such new organization, the Rev. J. Gantenbein be and is hereby appointed to preach the opening sermon and preside at the organization, which shall be effected at such time and place as may in his judgment be suitable.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. HELLER,
WM. R. H. DEATRICH,
S. N. CALLENDER,
PETER MIDDLEKAUFF,
A. R. SCHNEBLY,
Committee.

CHANGE OF REPRESENTATION IN DISTRICT SYNODS.

The Standing Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod reported, under item 5, a proposed amendment to the Constitution of the Church, granting to each District Synod the privilege of determining for itself the ratio or basis of representation of the Classes in the meetings of the District Synods.

The proposed amendment was approved, and the item was referred to the Classes for their approval or rejection.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under items 12 and 13, certain action of the last annual Meeting of Synod enjoining and commanding the Classis of North Carolina to desist from the use of any other hymn book by her congregations than those already allowed, until the General Synod grants such permission; and that the Stated Clerk of the Classis of North Carolina, who had failed to furnish the Synod of Baltimore with a copy of the Minutes of the Classis for the year 1876-77, agreeably to the requirement of the Constitution of the Church, should be required to send, forthwith, to the Stated Clerk of Synod, a copy of the Minutes of said Classis for the year named.

The Stated Clerk of Synod reported, that the Stated Clerk of the North Carolina Classis complied with the requirements of Synod, and sent the Minutes demanded.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes reported, under item 9, that the North Carolina Classis refused to comply with Synod's injunction and command not to use any selection of Psalms or Hymns in public worship in her churches, except such as have been approved or recommended by the General Synod.

Wherefore, the following resolution was moved and adopted:

Resolved, That the attention of North Carolina Classis be again directed to Articles 80 and 140 of the Constitution of the Reformed Church, on the subject of hymn books, &c.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk in regard to the publication of the Minutes of the Fifth Annual Meeting of Synod, and was adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report, that he had two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Synod published, and distributed them agreeably to the instructions of your Reverend Body.

In accordance with the authority granted by the Synod of Baltimore, proposals were received for the printing of the Minutes of said Synod from four different firms, viz.: Small & Welsh of York, M. A. Foltz of Chambersburg, Edward J. Welch & Co. of Baltimore, and Grant, Faires & Rodgers of Philadelphia. The offer of the Messrs. Small & Welsh of York, Pa., was so much lower than that of any of the other firms, and their ability to perform the work in a business manner undisputed, that their bid was accepted without hesitation. Their proposal to print and bind in pamphlet form fifteen hundred copies of the Minutes was \$32.00 less than the bid of any of the other firms, and about \$60.00 less than that of

the Philadelphia firm, whose proposal was the highest. At the same time Messrs. Small & Welsh also offered to print an additional five hundred copies of the Minutes for \$20.12. While the printing was in progress, upon consultation with numerous brethren, it was decided to accept the latter offer, and accordingly two thousand copies were ordered. The cost for this number was still some fifteen dollars less than any other bid for fifteen hundred copies, making allowance for their increased size, and \$44.13 less than was paid for the printing of twelve hundred and fifty copies of the Minutes of the previous year.

The workmanship and general appearance of last year's Minutes may speak for themselves. The paper, printing, and cover are as good as in any former year. It is generally admitted that the contract has been honestly and faithfully performed.

Then too the Minutes were printed and distributed at an earlier date than in any previous year. Owing to having the reports of Committees printed in smaller type than the remainder of the Minutes, there was a very considerable saving of expense in their get up.

The cost of two thousand copies amounted to \$120.87, which was punctually paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, published, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

The Annual Report of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States was laid before Synod by the Rev. Dr. Fisher, and was read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Publication. The Report is as follows:

I. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD OF THE REFORMED CHURCH,

For the eleven months ending September 1st, 1878.

To the Synods of the United States, Pittsburgh, and the Potomac:

The Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully submits the following report:

The Board has had three regular meetings during the year. At the first regular meeting, Daniel W. Gross was elected *President*, and Samuel R. Fisher, *Secretary and Treasurer*, for the ensuing year.

The particular business entrusted to the Board has received prompt and careful attention. During the early part of the year, the prospects were very encouraging, as there was a considerable increase in the business and receipts of the Board. During the Summer months, however, a more than usual falling off in business and receipts was experienced, so that the bright prospects of the earlier part of the year were more or less blighted. Still in this experience, the Board has not been alone, as the depression has been felt most seriously in all business circles. Though we are not

able to report as favorable results as we had fondly anticipated, yet there is, all things considered, no real ground for discouragement. With an improvement in the business condition of the country, and the hearty co-operation of the Church, we can confidently expect to make encouraging progress in the future.

The Board has deemed it expedient to make the financial year close with the last of August, one month earlier than heretofore, so that the present report covers a period of only eleven months. This change was found necessary in view of the fact, that the financial year, ending as heretofore so very near the time for holding the annual meetings of the several Synods represented in the Board, too short a time was allowed the officials of the Board for taking a careful account of stock and gathering and formulating all the material necessarily entering into the annual report. This fact must be borne in mind, when instituting a comparison between the results presented in the present and in any previous report.

The Board gave the contracts for executing its work during the year, to the lowest and best bidder, and has made arrangements to do the same in reference to the ensuing year.

With a view to continue the careful supervision over the affairs of the Board and the exercise of a proper scrutiny into its condition, inaugurated during the previous year, a committee of three, in which each of the Synods included in the Board was represented, was again appointed, who met two days prior to the annual meeting of the Board itself and entered into an investigation similar to the one made the previous year. The following is the report of this committee as presented to the Board, and adopted by it:

PHILADELPHIA, September 18th, 1878.

The undersigned committee appointed by the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church, for the purpose of taking an Inventory of the Stock, and ascertain the amount of assets and put a just and fair valuation on the same, and also ascertain the amount of the liabilities of said Board, do report as follows:

That we have made a careful estimate of the value of the stock in the store, publications, materials on hand, and all other assets, with the following result:

Estimated value of assets,.....	\$44,623.84
Real Estate,.....	35,000.00
	<hr/>
	\$79,623.84
Liabilities,.....	\$32,097.86
Mortgage,.....	20,000.00
	<hr/>
	52,097.86
	<hr/>
Excess of assets,.....	\$27,525.98

One year ago, when your committee examined the stock, they found a number of publications, which had been ordered by Synod, on hand, for which there was but little or no demand, as well as a large number of back volumes of the "Review" and "Guardian," which had been previously estimated at the cost of publication—these they put a low valuation upon. But still finding the larger portion of this dead matter on hand, we have further reduced them to a mere nominal value in our present estimate.

We find the stock of goods in the store generally fresh, and kept in good order; but, in view of the large depreciation in the value of all kinds of merchandise during the past year, we have made material deductions from cost upon many of the goods on hand.

We find, that, owing to the very limited amount of patronage extended to the Establishment by the Church at large, the amount of stock on hand is too large for the amount of sales, and would suggest the reduction of the stock as soon as possible, proportionate with the amount of business done.

All of which is respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. HENSEL,
 J. W. LOVE,
 A. B. WINGERD,
Committee.

In accordance with the suggestions of the committee in the foregoing report, the Board appointed a special committee from its own members, to make arrangements for working off, by special efforts, all surplus stock in the Establishment.

The decrease in the assets of the Board, as compared with those presented a year ago, is to be accounted for by the further deduction made on the previous valuation by the committee, referred to in their report. Apart from this deduction, they would compare favorably with those of the previous year.

From the full and minute statement of the Board during the eleven months covered by the report, and of the present condition of the Establishment, submitted to the Board by the Superintendent, the following summing up of the receipts and disbursements is gathered :

Receipts, for eleven months,.....	\$31,520.14
Disbursements,	32,116 80
Excess of disbursements,.....	\$ 596.16
Treasurer's advances October 1, 1878,.....	\$14,255.60
Add excess of disbursements,	596.16
Total Treasurer's advances September 1, 1878,.....	\$14,851.76

From the report of the Superintendent, it still further appears, that the subscription lists of the several papers vary but little as to the number of subscribers, from that reported a year ago. The most material decrease is in the list of the "Child's Treasury," which reaches nine hundred and forty-four. There is a decrease in that of the "Messenger" of forty-two; "Review," twenty-one; "Lesson Papers," forty-two; and an increase to that of the "Guardian," of fifty-eight. The small decrease in the "Messenger" list, especially, may be accounted for by the careful pruning to which it has been subjected, in the way of relieving it of unprofitable subscribers.

The receipts and disbursements, as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year, show the former to be about the same as, and the latter considerably less than those of the last year, which is an encouraging feature.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted by the Board :

"WHEREAS, The Superintendent reports to this Board, that the "Messenger" is published at a cost of about \$2,000 more than is received on account of subscriptions to it; and, *whereas*, it is not deemed expedient to increase the subscription prices, therefore,

Resolved, That the Superintendent be directed to use a cheaper grade of paper, and if arrangements can be made with other religious papers, to

publish the inside pages of the large issue, on what is known as the co-operative plan.

Resolved, That the attention of the three Synods specially interested in the support of the Printing Establishment, be directed to the loss sustained in publishing the "Messenger," and that they be urged to make every possible effort to increase the subscription list to at least ten thousand paying subscribers.

Resolved, That as an inducement to take the "Messenger," new cash subscribers be furnished with it from the date of subscribing to the end of 1878 without charge.

With the approaching 1st of January, the term of service of George Gelbach, of the Synod of the United States, will expire, and also that of one member of the Board from the Synod of the Potomac. It will devolve upon these Synods to fill the vacancies that shall thus occur.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Board,

D. W. GROSS, *President*.

SAM'L R. FISHER, *Secretary*.

Philadelphia, October 1st, 1878.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The Standing Committee on Publication reported, during the session of Monday Afternoon. Their report was received and adopted, and is as follows :

Your Committee on Publication have examined the Report of the Publication Board together with their Annual Statement accompanying the same. From these we have learned with pleasure, that in the management of the particular interests of the Church committed to them, they have met with a good degree of success. That though they, with other business interests generally, have experienced the heavy pressure of the hard times, a falling off in business and receipts, and so failed in realizing the bright prospects of the opening of the year, yet they report no real ground for discouragement, and are hopeful for the future.

From what your Committee have been able to learn of the management and financial condition of the Board, and in answer to their request to the several Synods to give them sympathy and help in their work, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following :

Resolved, That we as a Synod heartily endorse the successful and economical business management of the Board.

Resolved, That in view of the heavy indebtedness of the Board, the present financial depression in business circles, and the falling off in the remuneration of labor in every sphere, we urge the Board, if at all possible, to reduce still further, in all particulars, salaries included, the expenses of the Board.

Resolved, That the pastors and consistories of this Synod be again earnestly asked to aid in the wider and more general circulation of all the publications of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. HOFFHEINS,
P. A. LONG,
WM. I. STEWART,
M. P. ZACHARIAS.

Committee.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 15, that agreeably to the Charter of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, it is made the duty of the Synod of the Potomac, at its present meeting, to elect a member of said Board, for the term of four years. On motion, the officers of Synod were instructed to decide which of the two members of the Board from this Synod should hold over, and accordingly decided that Elder G. S. Griffith so hold over. The Committee on Nominations were instructed to make provision for filling the vacancy. And at the election held for members of the several Boards of Synod, Elder Adam B. Wingerd was elected a member of the Board of Publication for four years.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder Adam B. Wingerd,.....	4 years,.....	1882
“ Goldsboro S. Griffith,.....	1 year,	1879

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 16, the continuance of the Committee to prepare and publish an edition of “Hymns for the Reformed Church” *with music*.

The Committee presented the following report which was received and adopted, and the Committee was continued. The report is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee on tunes for the new Hymn Book have been prosecuting their work in conjunction with the Committee of the Synod of the United States, appointed for the same end. Tunes for over three-fourths of the hymns have been selected, and the work will be completed, it is hoped, by the coming Spring. We therefore report progress, and ask to be continued.

Respectfully submitted,

E. F. HIGBEE, *Chairman*,
by request of the Committee.

XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

ASSISTANT EDITOR OF THE MESSENGER.

The Standing Committee on Overtures reported, under item 2, the resignation of Rev. Dr. Higbee as Assistant Editor of *The Messenger*, which was accepted. The Standing Committee on Nominations was instructed to put in nomination candidates for the position. At the election held for members of the several Boards of Synod, the Rev. Abner R. Kremer was chosen as Assistant Editor of *The Messenger*.

During the session of Saturday Morning, the Standing Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received amended, and adopted. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have a sufficient number of tickets of these nominations printed for the use of Synod, and the election was made the order of the day for the opening of Monday Afternoon's session. At the appointed time, the election took place. Revs. J. D. Zehring, J. T. Rossiter, J. M. Mickley, D. N. Dittmar, J. D. Miller, and Elder I. K. Little were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Trustees of Synod, Missions, Sunday-school, Publication Board, and Assistant Editor of The Messenger.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 5, reported a statement of the condition of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., and a request to aid in enlarging the work and usefulness of that institution. And the Standing Committee on the Minutes of the General Synod, under item 4, reported, that the General Synod directs, that the claims of the Orphan Homes be urgently presented by the ministers and elders of all our congregations to the membership of the Church, and to adopt the best measures to develop most fully the spirit of charity.

Both of these items were referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. J. A. Hoffheins, A. G. Dole, and Elder J. Hager.

This Committee subsequently submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, viz :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON ORPHAN HOMES.

Your Committee, to whom was referred the report of the Bethany Orphans' Home, and also the general subject of Orphan Homes, beg leave to report, that they have examined the document relating to the Home at Womelsdorf. In the Home there are at this time fifty orphans. A kind heavenly Father has given the Home many tokens of His favor, blessing the orphans with health, whilst they in turn have manifested their thankfulness in their moral conduct and general good behaviour. Their wants have been supplied through the gifts of the Church and the rich yield of the farm. Yet the Managers have been hindered in their work for lack of funds. Their necessary expenses have exceeded the receipts, although they refused to admit to the Home more than three-fourths of the applicants, during the past year. They have room for one hundred and fifty orphans, but have been able to support only fifty. They report a present indebtedness of \$6,600.00. Truly this is a sad story and appeals to our sympathies. They ask our prayers, they ask our aid. Shall we refuse this appeal of the orphans of the Church? Shall we turn a deaf ear to their cry? Nay, brethren, lest these little ones rise up in judgment against us, and the Great Judge condemn us, as untrue to Him. We, therefore, commend to pastors and people this Home for orphans, asking

your prayers and alms in their behalf, entreating you to give earnest heed to the cry of these little ones of Christ, trusting that especially in the free flow of gifts, during the Christmas tide, you will kindly remember them.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. HOFFHEINS,
A. G. DOLE,
JOHN HAGER,
Committee.

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes reported, under item 5, a resolution of Mercersburg Classis, expressing a willingness to transfer Mercersburg College to the fostering care of Synod, if the Synod, in its judgment, is prepared to have such an institution under its care. The matter was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. S. N. Callender, A. Wanner, W. C. Cremer, and Elders W. J. Hensell and W. A. Wilt.

This Committee reported, during the session of Monday Afternoon, which was received and adopted :

Your Committee, to whom was referred the offer of Mercersburg Classis to transfer the care of Mercersburg College to the Synod of the Potomac, beg leave to report :

That they have carefully considered the proposition, and have taken occasion to confer with a number of the members of this Synod upon the subject, and as the result of these deliberations and consultations feel moved to present the following resolutions for adoption :

Resolved, That this Synod accepts the proffer of Mercersburg Classis, and is willing to take Mercersburg College under her fostering care.

Resolved, That this Synod warmly commends said institution to the favor, the patronage, and the liberality of the congregations and members of the Reformed Church.

Resolved, That the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College be authorized, at their own expense, to place an agent in the field to solicit aid for said institution, and that said agent be most cordially commended to the Christian favor and liberality of all our membership and the friends of education generally.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER,
W. C. CREMER,
W. A. WILT,
WM. J. HENSELL.

The election of four delegates, two ministers and two elders, as members of the Commission to convene in the city of Harrisburg, Pa., on the last Wednesday of November, A. D. 1879, to consider and solemnly deliberate over all matters in controversy within the Church, with a view of devising a plan of amicable adjustment, was, on motion, deferred until the next annual meeting of Synod.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 1, reported an invitation from the Managers of the Agricultural and Mechanical Association of Washington County, Md., to visit their exhibition, then being held, in the immediate vicinity of Hagerstown. The invitation was, on motion, accepted by the Synod, and the Corresponding Secretary was instructed to return the thanks of the Synod to the Board of Managers for the courtesy extended.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon the members of Synod, to remunerate the sexton, and to meet incidental expenses. The Revs. N. H. Skyles and C. G. Fisher were appointed the committee to collect said assessment. At a subsequent session, the committee reported, as follows, which was received and adopted :

Your committee, appointed to collect the assessment of twenty-five cents from each member of Synod, would report, that they have attended to the duty assigned them as far as practicable, and the amount collected is \$27.70.

Respectfully submitted,

N. H. SKYLES,
CHAS. G. FISHER,
Committee.

The money thus raised, except one dollar to pay for the printing of the tickets for Synod's use, was handed to the Pastor *loci*.

On Friday Morning, a committee was appointed with plenary power to grant leave of absence, consisting of Revs. A. Wanner, A. R. Kremer, W. C. Cremer, and Elders H. M. Cocklin, and J. Stallsmith. The committee reported that the following persons had left before the close of the sessions, by permission of the committee, viz. :—Revs. D. W. Ebbert, E. E. Higbee, E. R. Eschbach, F. S. Leindaman, F. F. Bahner, I. M. Motter, and Elders D. Fortney, G. Hoke, L. Markell, F. Gutshall, J. T. Ankeny, P. B. Mikesell, G. Remsburg, G. Koons, H. Omwake, J. D. Aurandt, W. H. Bargelt, and J. Lantz.

ARTICLE XXII.

MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology submitted the following, which was received and adopted, viz :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

Reverend Fathers and Brethren in the Ministry :

The Lord God has vouchsafed His mercy to us, and spared the lives of all His ministerial servants belonging to our Synod, throughout another

year, with one exception. That exception embraces the oldest father lately on our ministerial roll—the venerable Frederick William Vandersloot, who departed this life at his late residence near York, Pa., on Wednesday night, September 11th, A. D. 1878. Born in Northampton County, Pa., December 8th, 1803, he lived to the age of 74 years, 9 months and 3 days.

The family from which he was descended was eminently a family of ministers, and the connection of its members with the ministry of the Reformed Church can be traced back almost to the time of the Reformation. During all this period, from its commencement to the present time, the chain has remained unbroken, not a link having failed, although at one time four generations passed with but one son in the family.

He received his classical education mainly at the old Pennsylvania College in Philadelphia, and which has been since superceded by the University College. He studied theology partly under his father, whose name also was Frederick William Vandersloot, and who had charge of congregations, at the time, in the State of Virginia; and also partly at the Theological Seminary, then located in Carlisle, Pa., and presided over by the Rev. Lewis Mayer, D. D. He was licensed in Philadelphia in 1830, and was ordained the same year; and having taken charge of Staley's Church, he served this and affiliated congregations in York County, Pa. He continued to serve this pastoral field of labor, during the uninterrupted period of forty-six years, until constrained by increasing age and growing infirmities to resign his charge, about two years before his death.

He labored in the work of the Christian ministry for about fifty years, having taught publicly in the house of the Lord, some years before his licensure and ordination, whilst pursuing his studies in Virginia, under his father.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK,
J. W. SANTEE,
A. J. HELLER,
G. S. GRIFFITH,
Committee.

ARTICLE XXIII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and adopted:

Resolved, That the most hearty thanks of this Synod be, and hereby are, tendered to the Pastor and members of the First Reformed Church, and also to the members of the Second Reformed Church and other citizens of Hagerstown, for the very kind and hospitable entertainment extended to its members, during our very pleasant sojourn among them, and that we invoke the blessing of our Heavenly Father upon them.

Resolved, That the Pastors of the Reformed Churches of Hagerstown be requested to read the foregoing resolution from their respective pulpits, at their next Lord's Day service.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk of Synod be instructed to return the thanks of this Synod to the Western Maryland, Cumberland Valley, Pennsylvania, and Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Companies for kindness

in permitting the members of Synod to pass over their respective roads, at reduced rates of fare.

Resolved, That the papers of Hagerstown be kindly requested to publish the foregoing resolutions.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and no member of Synod was found absent without permission.

The minutes were then finally read, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIV.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted, during the session of Friday Afternoon, to wit:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be *in General Convention*.

Resolved, That when we adjourn finally, it be to meet again in annual sessions in the First Reformed Church of Frederick, Md., on Wednesday Evening, October 22nd, A. D. 1879, at 7 o'clock.

The Synod adjourned finally on Monday Night, October 21st, at about 11 o'clock, with repetition of the Apostles' Creed, uniting in the Lord's Prayer, singing the Gloria Patri, and the Apostolic Benediction by the President.

MOSES KIEFFER *President*.

WM. M. DEATRICK, STATED CLERK.

Official copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

CLASSIS OF ZION.

MINISTERS.	CONGREGATIONS.	CHARGES.	MEMBERS.		BAPTISM		CONFIRMED.	CERTIFICATES.	COMMUNICANTS.	EXCOMMUNICATED.	DEATHS.	SUNDAY SCHOOLS.	SUNDAY SCHOOL SCHOLARS.	REVER. CONTRIBUTIONS		STUDENTS.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESSES.
			Confirmed	Unconfirmed	Infants.	Adults.								General.	Local.		
Jacob Sechler,	4 Manheim,	Manheim,	450	175	24	3	11	425	179	1	12	8	8	\$ 174.75			Hanover, York
Daniel Sechler,	2 Dillsburg,	Dillsburg,	245		12		15	179			8	2		87.00			Dillsburg, "
Jacob Ziegler,	1 Without charge,	Trinity Church, York,	376	305			28	14	365	6	15	6	550	36.75	36.75	1	York, "
David O. Miller, D. D.,	4 Shrewsbury,	Shrewsbury,	435	200	43		8	7	375	5	7	1	250	75.22	1120.00	1	Shrewsbury, York
William K. Zieber, D.D.,	1 Hanover,	Hanover,	348	531	72	3	45	15	320	10	21	4	330	314.00	5405.62		Hanover, "
John A. R. Deutrich,	4 Christ Church,	Christ Church,	1010	531	91	6	14	13	292	8	8	2	201	141.00	6400.00		Littlestown, Adams
Wm. K. R. Deutrich,	5 Emanuel's,	Emanuel's,	300	189	49		23	5	301	2	26	12	300	137.00	1487.00		Mechanicsburg, Cumberl'd
Jacob D. Zehring,	3 Trinity,	Trinity,	915	370	54		8	1	301	4	20	1	388	223.40	694.00		Codorus, York
Kinchard K. Smith,	3 York Springs,	York Springs,	263	158	54		9	7	195	5	8	3	170	17.21	273.00		York, "
Aaron Wagner,	1 Zion's Church, York,	Zion's Church, York,	280	175	17	5	25	7	225	3	6	1	100	40.00	1200.00	1	York, "
Francis S. Lindaman,	4 Zion's,	Zion's,	475	300	28	4	32	20	311	2	3	5	200	171.96	1000.00	1	Blain, Perry
Kenben Knabauer,	4 Mt. Pleasant,	Mt. Pleasant,	100	60	17	1	28	11	90	16	25	9	365	350.00	1600.00		Littlestown, York
Israel S. Weisz, D. D.,	2 Paradise,	Paradise,	824	525	68		42	11	718	2	4	4	125	75.00	1200.00		York, "
Moses Kneifer, D. D.,	4 Landsburg,	Landsburg,	325	240	20	2	25	10	310	6	7	1	125	88.40			Gettysburg, Adams
William H. Horbert,	4 Conawago,	Conawago,	340	169	6	2	25	2	800	2	4	4	350	130.33	2850.00		Landsburg, Perry
Andrew J. Heller,	5 Without charge,	Without charge,	475	800	40	6	30	10	430	9	8	3	200	89.24	900.00	2	Arendtsville, Adams
Geo. W. Gleesner, D. D.,	3 New Bloomfield,	New Bloomfield,	680	650	40	8	37	5	600	3	22	6	395	70.00	875.00		Shippensburg, Cumberland
Wm. F. Colliflower,	3 Duncannon,	Duncannon,	277	190	16	1	6	4	294	8	6	3	285	34.87	539.38		Newport, Perry
John Kretzing,	4 Sulphur Spring,	Sulphur Spring,	150	100	18	1	6	8	100	3	4	3	165	35.00	760.00		Duncannon, Perry
Vacant.	1 Without charge,	Without charge,	201	104	5	5	17	18	178	3	8	8	60	39.00			Carlisle, Cumberland
F. E. Vandersloot,	1 Newburg,	Newburg,	1.9	70	6	7	14	9	102	1	6	1	100	340.00	340.00		Herndon, Fairfax Co., Va.
J. Marion Mickle,	4 Kreutz Creek,	Kreutz Creek,	175	100	22		16	15	125	2	3	4	150	25.00	650.00		Newburg, Cumberland
E. Garver Williams,	1 Carlisle,	Carlisle,	210	175	7		1	10	165	2	6	1	150	38.00	900.01		York, York
Amos H. Kremer, D. D.,	1 Mt. Zion Cong.,	Heidelberg Ch., York,	157	129	4		4	6	130	1	1	1	215	1400.00			Carlisle, Cumberland
Frederick J. Sauter,	1 Without charge,	Without charge,	83	75	9	1	8	4	70		2	110		16.00	50.00		York, York
William D. Letever,	1 Mt. Zion Cong.,	Mt. Zion Cong.,	82	51	7		3	64			1						Littlestown, Adams
Sup. by Rev. A. Wanner,	1 Ziegler's Cong.,	Ziegler's Cong.,															
Amos D. Gring,	Missionary to Japan.	Missionary to Japan.															
Samuel T. Wagner,	Licentiate,	Licentiate,															
			9638	5756	696	51	485	203	5273	2	198	231	198	\$2455.20	\$30970.00	5	Shrewsbury, York
																	Landsburg, Perry

Total, 30.

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Congregations.	Members.	Unconfirmed Members.	Infant Baptism.	Adult Baptism.	Confirmed.	By Certificate or Renewal of Profession.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
																Benevolent Purposes.	Congregational Purposes.		
John C. Hensell.	3 Rockingham.		187	75	5	1	6	1	134	2	1	3	3	101		\$ 60.00.	170.10	Mt. Crawford, Rockingham Co., Va.	
George H. Martin, D. D.,	4 Woodstock.		360	11	4	24	1	8	340	1		2	3	110		240.00.		Woodstock, Shenandoah "	
Henry St. J. Rinker,	1 Lovettsville.		110	86	9	1	8	1	188	2	12	2	1	65		30.00.		Lovettsville, London "	
Samuel N. C. Allender, D. D.,	2 Mt. Crawford,		292	86	10	1	8	1	185	2		1	1	50	1	150.00.	200.00	Pleasant Valley, Rockingham Co., Va.	
Charles G. Fisher,	3 Winchester,		115	86	8	1	2	8	155	2		1	1	75		34.00.	317.00	Winchester, Frederick "	
Henry Talhelm.	3 Edenburg,		185	11	8	1	8	1	155	2		1	1	110		32.00.		Edenburg, Shenandoah "	
John C. Bowman.	1 Shepherdstown,		125	50	3	3	3	1	178	4		1	1	160		9.00.	305.00	Shepherdstown, Jefferson Co., West Va.	
John A. Hoffm-ine.	1 Martinsburg,		214	129	5	5	29	1	192	1		1	1	65		25.00.		Martinsburg, Berkeley "	
Anderson J. Whitmore,	2 Middlebrook,		129	12	7				209	3		2	2	68		42.00	18.00	Mt. Jackson, Shenandoah "	
Barton R. Carnahan,	4 Mill Creek,		228															Weyer's Cave, Augusta "	
Joseph S. Loane,	" Without charge,																	Bridgewater, Rockingham "	
Andrew J. Bowers,	" "																	Weyer's Cave, Augusta "	
George A. Whitmore,	Licentiate.																	Mt. Crawford, Rockingham Co., Va.	
Total, 13.		23	1856	297	81	27	87		37	1061	12	1	12	24	13	803	1	\$753.00	\$1172.10

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

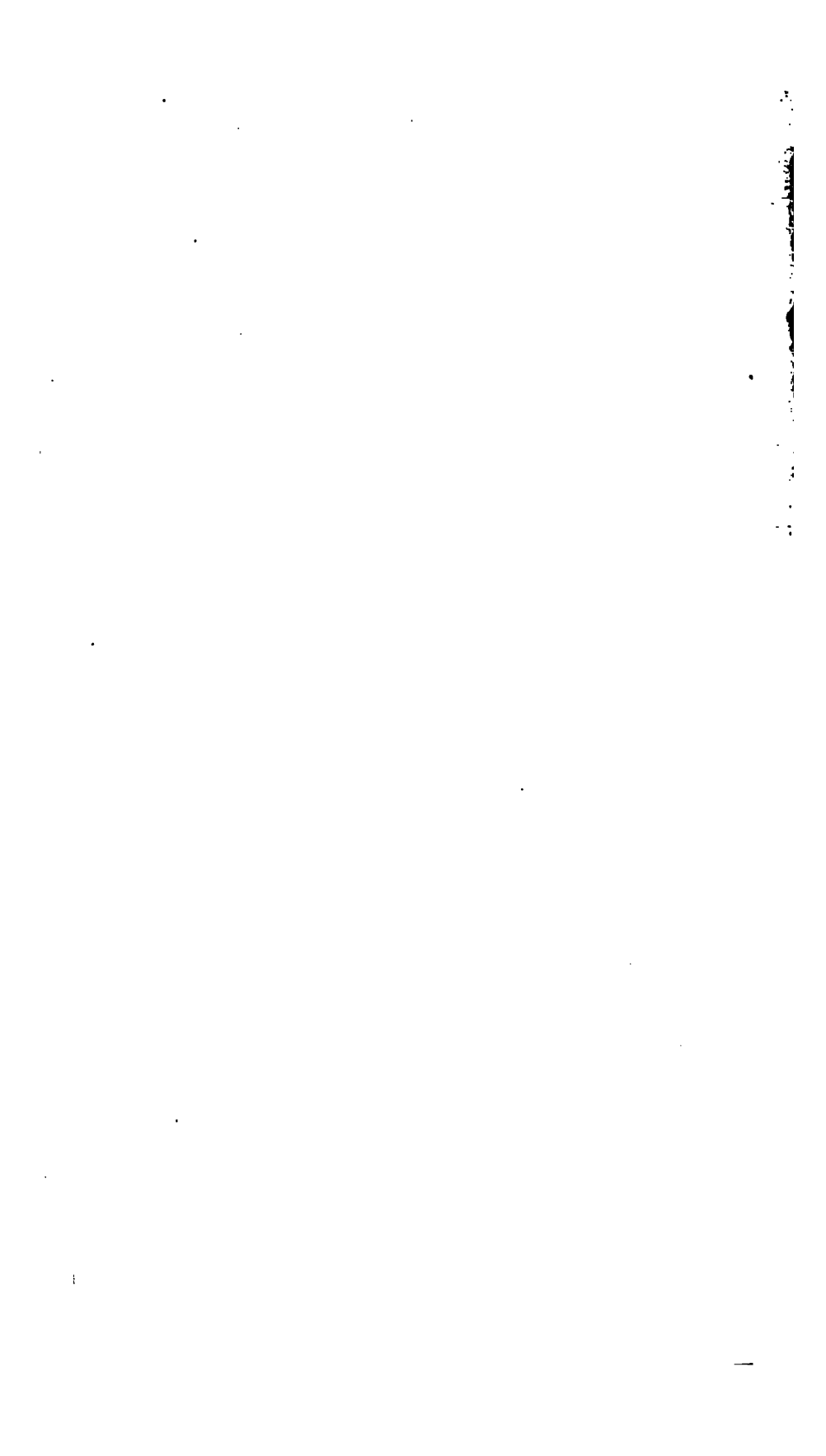
MINISTERS.	Congregations.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfirmed.	Infant Baptism.	Adult Baptism.	Confirmations.	Rec'd by Certificate.	Communicants.	Excommunicated.	Erase of Names.	Dismissed.	Deaths.	Sunday-school.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students.	Benevolent Contributions.	Local Contributions.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Julius H. Krueger,	1 Stockton,	1 Stockton,	68	74	12	18	7	60	60				1	1	65		\$30.00		Stockton, California.
Frederick Fox,	1 Napa,	1 Napa,	39	40	9	4	2	28	28				1	1	40		15.00		Napa, Napa Co., California.
John Gaantenbein,	1 Portland,	1 Portland,	66	70	10	10	12	66	66				1	1	50		10.00		Portland, Oregon.
J. Muellhaant,	2 Salem,	2 Salem,	50	55	8	6	20	45	45				1	2	45				Salem, Oregon.
Lewis G. Edwards,	Without charge,	Without charge,																	Emporia, Kansas.
Julius Fendeling,	1 San Francisco,	1 San Francisco,	60	115	20	7	8	50	50				4	1	95		34.40		San Francisco, California.
George Meckersheim.																			Walla-Walla, Washington Ter
Total, 7.	6		274	354	59	45	40	251	251				12	6	225		\$79.40		

STATISTICAL SUMMARY. Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Minist'rs.	Congregations.	Members.		Baptisms.		Confirmations.	Certificate.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Erasure of Names.	Deaths.	Sunday-school.	Scholars.	Students for the Ministry.	Contributions.	
			Unconfirmed Members.	Infant.	Adult.	Beneficent Purposes.											Local Purposes.	
Zion's,	30	78	9,638	5,145	686	51	485	293	8,273	98	2	10	231	98	5,212	5	\$2,458.29	\$30,370.00
Mercersburg,	36	7	6,384	4,508	313	35	184	112	5,623	108	1	10	130	64	4,012	15	2,841.12	21,791.78
Maryland,	27	49	5,367	3,806	163	35	275	150	4,965	65	2	197	43	43	3,987	3	3,283.48	26,914.19
North Carolina,	12	26	2,005	919	92	9	44	60	1,926	15	2	18	18	18	700	5	27.00	1,647.00
Virginia,	13	23	1,856	297	81	27	87	37	1,561	12	1	12	24	13	893	1	755.00	1,172.10
San Francisco,	7	6	274	351	57	2	45	49	250	2			12	6	295		73.40	
Total: 6 Classes,	125	255	26,064	15,760	1,394	159	1,121	601	22,598	301	6	22	611	232	14,889	29	\$9,450.29	\$81,826.07
Synod of the United States, 8 Classes,	207	434	66,762	38,753	5,730	317	3,761	821	83,798	585	17	366	2,665	505	37,947	60	20,633.79	186,433.60
Synod of Ohio, 12 Classes,	102	340	21,340	11,397	1,406	464	1,607	737	19,992	289	19	403	541	283	20,124	23	7,032.00	80,870.00
Synod of Pittsburgh, 5 Classes,	62	113	10,177	7,746	806	41	685	214	8,745	122	1	83	214	97	6,343	5	8,939.14	48,046.74
Synod of the North West, 9 Classes,	132	292	16,459	13,048	1,627	9	949	762	13,185	230	11	111	482	164	9,492	18	7,940.00	58,092.00
German Synod of the East, 5 Classes,	38	38	7,938	5,655	1,520	22	537	411	6,736	63	18	52	567	38	5,670	4	4,191.00	52,896.00
Grand Total: 6 Synods, 45 Classes,	716	1,392	151,838	92,268	12,563	1,012	8,719	3,579	121,684	1,839	72	1,037	5,110	1,299	94,605	147	\$55,220.34	\$407,091.81

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SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH,

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

Frederick, Md., October, A. D., 1879.

YORK, PA.:
GAZETTE PRINTING HOUSE.
1879.



SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES,

IN GENERAL CONVENTION.

FREDERICK, MD., OCTOBER, 1879.

YORK, PA. :
GAZETTE PRINTING HOUSE.

1879.

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ART. II. MEMBERS PRESENT.

ART. III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

ART. IV. RULES OF ORDER.

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5. *On Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.*
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ART. VIII. MINUTES OF SYNOD.

ART. IX. OVERTURES.

ART. X. MINUTES OF CLASSES.

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SEVENTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its Annual Sessions, convened in General Convention, in Frederick, Md., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-nine. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the Twenty-second, and continued until the Twenty-ninth day of the month inclusive, at 12¼ o'clock.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in *General Convention*, on Wednesday evening, October 22nd, A. D. 1879, at 7 o'clock, in the First or Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick City, Frederick County, Md., pursuant to appointment of last annual meeting, and was opened with the usual religious services. The President of the previous year, Rev. M. Kieffer, D. D., preached the opening sermon from Isaiah 21: 11, 12—"Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchman said, The morning cometh, and also the night: if ye will inquire, inquire ye: return, come."

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers:—Jacob O. Miller, D. D., William K. Zieber, D. D., John Ault, Rinehart R. Smith, Aaron Wanner, D. D., Aaron Spangler, Reuben Rauhauser, Israel S. Weisz, D. D., Moses Kieffer, D. D., William H. Herbert, Andrew J. Heller, George W. Glessner, D. D., John Kretzing, E. Garver Williams, Amos H. Kremer, D. D., William H. Xanders, Silas F. Laury, Francis S. Lindaman, William R. H. Deatrich, Jeremiah M. Mickley, William F. Colliflower, William D. Leffer, and the *Licentiates* Samuel T. Wagner and Silas M. Hench.

Elders:—Israel Laucks, John Sellers, Emanuel Krone, Jacob G. March, John Miller, Daniel Mitzel, Michael L. Emig, Andrew H.

Beitler, Jacob Rickard, James E. Ross, John Hoover, Francis M. McKeen, Henry Dietz, Samuel R. Weaver, Adam D. Myers, George W. Hench, S. Augustus Basehore, Peter Stambaugh, Henry Wirt, Adam Heberlig, J. Lawrence Rohrbach, and Jesse W. Garrett.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers:—Joseph W. Santee, D. D., George L. Staley, D. D., Edmund R. Eschbach, D. D., William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, Abner R. Kremer, Mortimer L. Shuford, Orange E. Lake, Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, T. Franklin Hoffmeier, Ambrose C. Geary, John G. Noss, William Rupp, Jonas B. Shontz, Leighton G. Kremer, Marion L. Firor, Conrad Clever, Anthony Shulenberg, J. Spangler Kieffer, P. Allison Long, Henry Wissler, and the *Licentiate* Henry E. Cook.

Elders:—Hon. Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., Louis Markell, Joseph H. Troup, J. Taylor Motter, Ezra Williard, William H. Haugh, Goldsboro S. Griffith, David H. Koogle, Christian N. Keedy, H. Wirt Shriver, John M. Hoffman, Jacob Sellers, William Miller, Jacob H. Bowers, Peter Zimmerman, Michael Smith, Michael Zimmerman, Daniel Biser, and Charles Fridinger.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers:—William M. Deatrick, Isaac G. Brown, Albert G. Dole, Ellis N. Kremer, David M. Whitmore, David N. Dittmar, John M. Schick, William I. Stewart, David W. Ebbert, William C. Cremer, William A. Gring, Franklin F. Bahner, Henry F. Long, J. David Miller, Henry S. Garner, J. Alvin Reber, Isaac N. Peightel, Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., Milton H. Sangree, Isaac M. Motter, Cyrus H. Reiter, Henry I. Comfort, and John H. Sykes.

Elders:—Henry Mickley, Adriel Koons, Benjamin Neff, William Dice, George Dice, Levi Bolger, Henry Omwake, and Samuel B. Snively.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers:—Samuel N. Callender, D. D., Henry Tallhelm, Charles G. Fisher, John C. Bowman, John A. Hoffheins, Barton R. Carnahan, Samuel L. Whitmore, Lawrence M. Hensell, George H. Martin, D. D., Henry St. J. Rinker, and Anderson J. Whitmore.

Elders:—William H. Bargelt, John M. Nicely, John M. Stoner, Joseph Welshans, John W. Yakey, Henry J. Seibert, Emanuel Roler, and John F. Crown.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

Ministers:—G. William Welker, D. D., and John A. Foil.

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

* * * * *

VII. FROM THE PORTLAND-OREGON CLASSIS.

* * * * *

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

From the Synod of the United States:—Revs. Samuel R. Fisher, D. D., George H. Johnston, John A. Peters, and Theodore Appel, D. D.
From the Synod of Pittsburgh:—Rev. George A. Whitmore.
From the German Synod of the East:—Rev. Herman Bielfeld.
From Zion's Classis:—Elder William A. Wilt.
From Mercersburg Classis:—Elders Adam B. Wingerd and Jacob Heyser.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of the following ministers, residents of Frederick or vicinity, was announced from time to time, during the sessions of Synod, viz: George Diehl, D. D. of the Lutheran Church, S. V. Leach, D. D., C. E. Dudrear, A. E. Bradenbaugh, and W. A. Koontz of the Methodist Church; J. L. Grimm and William Beall of the United Brethren Church; Robert H. Williams of the Presbyterian Church; and M. Spriddle of the African Methodist Church.

NOTE.—A considerable number of the members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session. Hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would appear, had they been present at the formation of the Synodical Roll, at the opening session, but in the order of their appearance upon the floor of Synod.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. J. W. Santee, D. D., *President*, Cavetown, Md.
 Rev. W. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*, Mercersburg, Pa.
 Rev. I. S. Weisz, D. D., *Corresponding Secretary*, York, Pa.
 Elder L. H. Steiner, M. D., *Treasurer*, Frederick, Md.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The Rules of Order, as adopted at the first annual meeting of Synod, were read by the Stated Clerk. The limits of the *Bar of the House* were defined, agreeably to these Rules, to consist of the first eight pews from the chancel railing.

On motion, the following plan or rule for the formation of the roll of the next Synod was adopted, viz.:

Inasmuch, as considerable time is occupied annually in making out the Synodical Roll, and in order to avoid this as much as possible in

the future, and to facilitate the formation of said roll, it is hereby ordered, as follows, to wit :

1. That, at least ten days before the meeting of next Synod, the Stated Clerk of each Classis furnish the Stated Clerk of the Synod with a certified list or roll of all the ministers and pastoral charges on the Classical Roll, at the time.

2. That, at least ten days previous to the convening of the next annual meeting of Synod, each pastoral charge shall be required to send the proper credentials of its delegated elder or elders to the Stated Clerk of Synod.

3. That the Stated Clerk of Synod shall, from these data, form a provisional roll, which is to be called immediately after the Synodical sermon has been preached, and that the names of those responding shall constitute the opening Synodical Roll for the purpose of organization.

4. That, at least four weeks before the time appointed for the next Synod to meet, the Stated Clerk of Synod give official notice of the foregoing action in *The Messenger*.

The following hours were fixed for the opening and closing of the current sessions of Synod, viz. :

The forenoon session to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock. The afternoon session to begin at 2 and end at 4½ o'clock. Evening sessions were held on Monday and Tuesday evenings, beginning at 7½ and 7 o'clock, respectively.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the President, viz. :

Religious Services :—Revs. E. R. Eschbach, M. L. Shuford, G. W. Glessner, M. L. Firor, and Elders L. H. Steiner, D. H. Koogler, and L. Markell.

Minutes of Synod :—Revs. W. M. Deatriek, J. Ault, O. E. Lake, J. A. Foil, and Elders I. Laucks, E. Williard, and J. Welshans.

Overtures :—Revs. A. Wanner, W. C. Cremer, W. Goodrich, B. R. Carnahan, and Elders John Sellers, J. H. Troup, and H. Mickley.

Minutes of Classes :—Revs. I. S. Weisz, C. G. Fisher, S. S. Miller, D. N. Dittmar, and Elders E. Krone, J. Hoover, and A. Koons.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination :—Revs. G. W. Welker, J. O. Miller, G. L. Staley, A. G. Dole, and Elders G. S. Griffith, B. Neff, and J. M. Nicely.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports :—Revs. M. Kieffer, J. C. Bowman, A. C. Geary, F. F. Bahner, and Elders A. H. Beitler, J. T. Motter, and W. Dice.

Education :—Revs. T. F. Hoffmeier, E. N. Kremer, J. Kretzing, D. W. Ebbert, and Elders H. W. Shriver, L. Bolger, and J. M. Stoner.

Missions :—Revs. A. J. Heller, A. Spangler, J. T. Rossiter, D. M. Whitmore, and Elders J. G. March, Jacob Sellers, and G. Dice.

Publication :—Revs. S. N. Callender, J. G. Noss, W. A. Gring, W. H. Herbert, and Elders F. M. McKeehan, J. M. Hoffman, and M. L. Emig.

Finance :—Revs. A. H. Kremer, N. H. Skyles, C. Clever, W. I. Stewart, and Elders J. Miller, W. H. Haugh, and D. Mitzel.

Nominations :—Revs. A. R. Kremer, W. Rupp, L. G. Kremer, J. M. Schick, and Elders W. H. Bargelt, J. E. Ross, and C. M. Keedy.

Ministerial Necrology :—Revs. I. G. Brown, R. R. Smith, J. D. Miller, E. G. Williams, and Elders J. Rickard, H. Dietz, and S. R. Weaver.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Mercersburg, Maryland, North Carolina, Virginia, San Francisco, Portland-Oregon, and Zion were received, and referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and the Statistical Tables, which were referred to the Standing Committee on these subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Report of the Board of Education was laid before Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

4. The Annual Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., was received and referred to the same Committee.

5. The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Missions.

6. Ten other Communications were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following religious services, viz. :

1. The sessions of each day were opened and closed with appropriate religious services.

2. The Standing Committee on Religious Services submitted their report, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows :

Your Committee on Religious Services would respectfully report, as follows :

SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE SYNOD, IN THE FIRST
REFORMED CHURCH.

Thursday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. Dr. Welker. Liturgical services by Revs. W. C. Cremer and Dr. Weisz.

Friday Evening.—Synodical Sunday-school Board's service, conducted by Elder G. S. Griffith.

1st Topic. The Sunday-school as a Means of Christian Nurture. *Speakers*, Revs. Dr. Staley and W. I. Stewart.

2nd Topic. The Preparation Necessary, on the part of a teacher, before meeting the Class. *Speakers*, Revs. J. B. Shontz and Dr. Wanner.

3rd Topic. The Catechism as a text-book of distinctive doctrine in the Sunday-school. *Speakers*, Revs. F. F. Bahner and Dr. Callender.

Saturday Afternoon.—Services preparatory to the Holy Communion: sermon by Rev. Dr. Martin. Liturgical services by Revs. Dr. Miller and W. M. Deatrick.

Saturday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. C. Bowman. Liturgical services by Revs. J. A. Hoffheins and J. A. Foil.

Sunday Morning.—Celebration of the Lord's Supper: sermon or address by Rev. Dr. Glessner. Liturgical services by Revs. Drs. Santee and Fisher.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school services. Addresses by Revs. Dr. Kremer, G. H. Johnston, and Dr. Miller.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. Dr. Higbee. Liturgical services by Revs. W. Goodrich and A. J. Heller.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES.

Reformed Church (German).—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. A. Spangler. *Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. R. R. Smith.

Fairview Church.—*Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. G. A. Whitmore.

Mount Pleasant Charge.—*Sunday*, Rev. A. R. Kremer.

Glade Charge.—*Sunday*, Rev. F. S. Lindaman.

Jefferson.—*Sunday Evening*, Rev. E. N. Kremer.

Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. Dr. Callender. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. M. L. Firor.

Methodist Episcopal Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. C. Clever. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. J. A. Hoffheins.

Episcopal Methodist Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. E. N. Kremer. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. Dr. Staley.

Presbyterian Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. W. I. Stewart. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. F. F. Bahner.

Baptist Church (Colored).—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. J. H. Sykes. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. D. W. Ebbert.

African Methodist Church.—*Sunday Morning*, Rev. A. J. Heller. *Sunday Evening*, Rev. H. Tallhelm.

Lutheran Church (German Service).—*Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. E. G. Williams.

Harmony Grove.—*Sunday Afternoon*, Rev. J. B. Shontz.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. ESCHBACH, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting publicly by the Synod was dispensed with, and the Printed Minutes of the last annual sessions were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod to report the items of unfinished business, claiming the attention of this meeting of Synod. During the session of Thursday Afternoon, the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod submitted the following report, which was received, considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows, to wit:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF SYNOD.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee, to whom were referred the Minutes of Synod of last year, after a careful perusal of them, beg leave to report the following items of unfinished business claiming the attention of the present sessions of Synod, viz.:

Item 1, page 7. The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology was appointed, whose duty it will be to report at this meeting of Synod, of which Committee Rev. G. L. Staley is Chairman.

Item 2, page 25. It will be necessary to elect members of the Board of Education to fill the places of Revs. W. Goodrich and J. A. Hoffheins, and Elder J. Heyser, whose terms of office will expire with the present sessions of Synod.

Item 3, page 34. Two thousand dollars, in addition to the three thousand voluntarily assumed by the Maryland Classis, were apportioned among the Classes of Zion, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, and San Francisco, for the purchasing of a lot and the erection of a chapel for the Washington City mission.

Item 4, page 34. The Tri-Synodic Board of Missions was requested to issue an appeal to the Reformed Church, at large, for funds for the same purpose, and thereby afford an opportunity to every baptized as well as confirmed member of our Zion to contribute towards the erection of a chapel for said mission.

Item 5, page 34. Thirty-nine hundred and fifty dollars were apportioned among the several Classes for Home Missions.

Item 6, page 35. All the pastors belonging to Synod were requested to take up special collections for the payment in full of the promises made by the Synod at York, in 1876, to the cause of missions in the Iowa and Virginia Classes.

Item 7, page 35. The Maryland Classis was requested to appoint a committee to regulate, conjointly with the mission congregation in Washington city, the purchasing of a lot and the building of a chapel; and to have authority also to draw upon the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions for such funds as may have been placed in his hands for this specific object.

Item 8, page 36. It will be necessary to elect a member of the Synodic Board of Missions to fill the place of Elder Henry Wirt, whose term of service expired on the 1st instant.

Item 9, page 37. The Synod made contingent provision for the ordination of the licentiate Ambrose D. Gring to the work of the Holy Ministry and also as missionary to Japan; and, to this end, appointed a committee of ordination, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, M. Kieffer, and E. R. Eschbach.

Item 10, page 39. One half of the assessment upon Synod by the last General Synod for contingent purposes, being one hundred and thirty dollars, remained unprovided for, and was referred to this Synod for liquidation.

Item 11, page 40. An increasing deficit was reported by the Board of Trustees of Synod in the fund needed to cancel the loan, made in 1875 by the direction of Synod for the relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board.

Item 12, page 40. It becomes necessary to elect a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod, to fill the place of Rev E. R. Eschbach, whose term of service will end January 1st, 1880.

Item 13, page 41. It will be necessary to elect two members of the Sunday-school Board, to fill the places of Elder G. S. Griffith, whose

term of office expires at this meeting of Synod, and of Rev. A. C. Whitmer, whose place was made vacant by his removal, during the past year, into the bounds of the Synod of the United States.

Item 14, page 42. Conditional provision was made for the formation of a new Classis out of that portion of the territory of San Francisco Classis, lying north of the State of California.

Item 15, page 44. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Minutes of the last annual sessions of Synod published, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive Minutes of Synod.

Item 16, page 48. It is rendered necessary for Synod, at this time, to elect a member of the Reformed Church Publication Board, to fill the place of Elder G. S. Griffith, whose term of service is about to expire.

Item 17, page 48. The Committee, appointed to prepare and publish, jointly with a similar Committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church" *with music*, was continued, of which committee Rev. E. E. Higbee is Chairman.

Item 18, page 50. The election of four commissioners, two ministers and two elders, as members of the Commission to convene in the city of Harrisburg, Pa., on Wednesday, November 26th, 1879, to consider and solemnly deliberate over all matters in controversy within the Reformed Church in the United States, with a view of devising a plan of amicable adjustment, was deferred until the present meeting of Synod would take place.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK,
JOHN AULT,
O. E. LAKE,
J. A. FOIL,
ISRAEL LAUCKS,
EZRA WILLIARD,
JOSEPH WELSHANS,

Committee.

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article XXII., Ministerial Necrology; items 2, 8, 12, 13, and 16 were severally adopted, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations to make the necessary nominations; on items 3, 4, 5, 6, and 9, see Article XIV., Missions; on items 7 and 14, see Article X., Report of Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes; on items 10 and 11, see Article XV., Finance; on items 15 and 17, see Article XX., Publication; and on item 18, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous

ARTICLE IX.
OVERTURES.

The Standing Committee on Overtures presented their report, which was received, acted on item by item, amended, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Overtures report the following papers as requiring the attention of this Synod, to wit:

Item 1. A petition from the Woodstock Charge to this Synod to hold its next annual sessions in Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Va.

Item 2. A similar request from the Newton Church of North Carolina in the form of a unanimous invitation to the Potomac Synod to hold its sessions in 1880 in Newton, N. C.

Item 3. An overture from the Alumni Association of Mercersburg College, respectfully asking Synod for an hour to consider the future of the College, and, if practicable, to devise means for the help of said College in its present necessity. It is intended that the hour asked for, shall be occupied in speaking by Revs. Dr. Higbee, M. H. Sangree, and D. M. Whitmore.

Item 4. A communication from the Corresponding Secretary of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, requesting the appointment of a member from this Synod to constitute a joint committee of three; the other two to be appointed, the one from the Synod of Pittsburg, and the other from that of the Reformed Church in the United States. The duty of such joint committee shall be to select a series of Sunday-school Scripture Lessons, and to prepare comments on the same for the coming year; and, further, that annually hereafter such joint committee be appointed by said Synods for the same purpose.

Item 5. A letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in which he gives the action of said body, at the sessions in Easton, Pa., in 1878, on the overture from the Sunday-school Board of this Synod requesting the Eastern Synod to co-operate in publishing a Sunday-school Monthly, and respectfully suggests that this Synod bring this subject to the consideration of the Publication Board.

Item 6. A communication over the signatures of the President and Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in which the attention of this Synod is called to the action of said Synod with reference to the Peace Commission.

Item 7. A paper signed by the Stated Clerk of the same Synod, in his official capacity, giving the action of said Synod in reference to the payment of deficiency in the salaries of the Professors in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and a recommendation to this Synod to take similar action.

Item 8. A petition from the Consistory of the Reformed Church at Churchtown, Cumberland County, Pa., praying the Synod to receive the legacy of Philip Brechbill, late of Boiling Springs, Cumberland County, Pa., who by his last will and testament, dated March 4th, 1874, and proven in the Register's office in and for said County of Cumberland on the 31st day of May, 1875, did bequeath the sum of two hundred dollars to the Synod of the Reformed Church in the following words, viz.: "I will two hundred dollars to the German Reformed Synod, the interest thereof to be paid annually to the pastor at Churchtown." The Consistory further requests the appointment by Synod of some person, a member of this Synod, to whom the bequest may be paid and kept in trust for said Church.

Item 9. A statement by the President of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, of the condition and wants of said institution, together with an earnest appeal to this Synod for aid to pay the debt of \$4,000.00, still resting on the Home, and help for its support in general.

Item 10. A communication from Rev. Dr. Fisher, Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, in which he directs the attention of this Synod to the misspelling, in the Minutes of this Synod for 1878, of the following three names, members of that Synod, viz.: George Z. Kunkel, and Revs. Jared Fritzinger and W. T. Gerhard.

Respectfully submitted,

A. WANNER, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod on items 1 and 2, see Article XXIV., Adjournment; on items 3, 6, 8, and 9, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; on items 4 and 5, see Article XVIII., Sunday-schools; and on item 7, see Article XIII., Education. The attention of the Stated Clerk was called to the misspellings complained of in item 10.

NOTE.—Since returning home I have examined the original reports, in which the names occur, whose misspelling is complained of, and which were used in printing the Minutes, and find the mistakes and misspellings in the reports as furnished to the Synod of the Potomac. Surely, neither the Stated Clerk nor the Printer should, in all fairness, be held responsible for the mistakes and misspelling of proper names in carelessly copied reports furnished the Synod.

STATED CLERK.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes submitted their report, during the session of Tuesday Afternoon, which was received, disposed of item by item, amended, then adopted as a whole, and is as follows, viz.:

Your Committee on the Minutes of Classes offer the following as their report:

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. Zion's Classis transacted business, at a special meeting at York, Pa., July 11th, 1879, not contained in the call of the President, to wit: the dismissing of the licentiate Louis F. Woerle to the Classis of San Francisco.

2. The Stated Clerk of Virginia Classis failed to note the reading of the several parochial reports, and their reference to the Committee on the State of Religion, and also the propounding of the Constitutional questions to the respective elders.

3. The Stated Clerks of Zion's, Virginia, and North Carolina Classes failed to certify, under seal and signature, that their minutes are true copies of the original Minutes.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. Mercersburg Classis most earnestly urges the Synod to use every endeavor for the promotion and success of Mercersburg College.

5. Mercersburg Classis refers the tender of the resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters as a member of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College to Synod for acceptance.

6. Virginia Classis requests the Synod to relieve it from the apportionment of \$50 for the erection of a chapel for the mission church at Washington, D. C.

7. San Francisco Classis requests Synod to exonerate it from any special apportionments.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO CLASSES.

8. Zion's, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina and San Francisco Classes took favorable action on the subject of Home Missions.

9. All the Classes took favorable action on the subject of Beneficiary Education, and the increase of young men for the ministry.

10. Mercersburg Classis took favorable action on the apportionment for erection of chapel in Washington, D. C.

11. Zion's and North Carolina Classes took unfavorable action on the same subject.

12. Maryland Classis, in accordance with the request of Synod, appointed Revs. E. R. Eschbach, G. L. Staley, J. S. Kieffer, and Elders F. J. Davis and G. S. Griffith the Committee to act conjointly with the Washington City mission in the erection of a chapel in Washington.

13. San Francisco Classis consented to the organization of the Portland-Oregon Classis,—which organization was effected in Portland, Oregon, on the 1st of March A. D. 1879; Rev. J. Gantenbein, presiding;

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED, AND DISMISSED.

14. Zion's Classis licensed Silas M. Hench and Louis F. Woerle; received the licentiate William H. Xanders from the East Pennsylvania Classis and ordained him; received the licentiate Silas F. Laury from the Tohickon Classis and ordained him; received Rev. George E. Addams from the West Susquehanna Classis; and dismissed the licentiate Louis F. Woerle to the San Francisco Classis.

15. Maryland Classis ordained the licentiate Marion L. Firor; received Conrad Clever from the Lancaster Classis of the Synod of U. S.; dismissed the licentiate George M. Zacharias to the same Classis; and deposed Rev. Daniel Gans, D. D., from the Holy Ministry.

16. Mercersburg Classis licensed Wm. Wilberforce Deatrick, Samuel H. Eisenberg, and Daniel H. Leader; and dismissed Revs. Adam C. Whitmer to the West Susquehanna Classis, and Henry F. Seiple to the Tohickon Classis.

17. Virginia Classis licensed and ordained Samuel L. Whitmore and Lawrence M. Hensell; received Rev. Frederick E. Vandersloot from the Zion's Classis of this Synod; and dismissed the licentiate George A. Whitmore to the Clarion Classis.

18. North Carolina Classis erased the name of Rev. John C. Deny from its Roll.

19. San Francisco Classis licensed and ordained Julius Lange; received Revs. George Mechttersheimer from the New York Classis, Julius Fuendeling from the East Susquehanna Classis, Conrad F. Waldecker from Heidelberg Classis, and Louis F. Woerle from Zion's Classis, this Synod; and dismissed Rev. Lewis C. Edmonds to the Kansas Classis, and Revs. John Gantenbein, J. Muellhaupt, George Mechttersheimer, and Julius Lange and their congregations to form the Portland-Oregon Classis.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

20. Zion's Classis will meet in Littlestown, Adams County, Pa., on Thursday, May 20th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. A. J. Heller, *President*; Rev. W. R. H. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder Wm. A. Wilt, *Treasurer*.

21. Maryland Classis will meet in Funkstown, Washington County, Md., on Thursday, May 20th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. S. S. Miller, *President*, *Stated Clerk*, and *Treasurer*.

22. Mercersburg Classis will meet in McConnellstown, Huntingdon County, Pa., on Wednesday, May 19th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. F. A. Rupley, *President*; Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk*, and *Treasurer*.

23. Virginia Classis will meet in Zion's Church, Shenandoah County, Va., on Thursday, May 13th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. C. Bowman, *President*; Rev. H. St. John Rinker, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. C. G. Fisher, *Treasurer*.

24. North Carolina Classis will meet in the Brick Church in Guilford County, N. C., on Thursday, June 3rd, A. D. 1880, at 10 o'clock, A. M. Rev. J. H. Shuford, *President*; Rev. G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. T. Long, *Treasurer*.

25. San Francisco Classis will meet in St. John's Church, San Francisco, California, on Thursday, May 20th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. Fuendeling, *President*; Rev. C. F. Waldecker, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder B. Joost, *Treasurer*.

26. Portland-Oregon Classis will meet in the First Reformed Church of Portland, Oregon, on Thursday, July 8th, A. D. 1880, at 7½ o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. Gantenbein, *President*; Rev. J. Lange, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. J. Muellhaupt, *Treasurer*.

Respectfully submitted,

I. S. WEISZ,
S. S. MILLER,
CHAS. G. FISHER,
D. N. DITTMAR,
E. KRONE,
JOHN HOOVER,

Committee.

The resignation of Rev. J. A. Peters, in item 5, as a member of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College was accepted, and the Standing Committee on Nominations was instructed to make the necessary nominations to fill the vacancy. The request made in item 6 was not granted. The request made in item 7 was granted so far as the apportionment for Washington mission chapel is concerned, but no farther. The action of the Classes of Zion and North Carolina, reported in item 11 was not approved, and the apportionment of Synod of last year was reiterated. The remaining items were severally adopted.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE and ORDINATION.

The Standing Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination offered the following report, during the session of Tuesday Afternoon, which was received and adopted, viz.:

The Committee on Examination, Licensure, and Ordination would make report, that no business having been referred to them, nor any application made for examination, they now ask to be discharged.

Respectfully submitted,

G. WM. WELKER,
J. O. MILLER,
GEO. LEWIS STALEY,
A. G. DOLE,
G. S. GRIFFITH,
BENJAMIN NEFF,
JOHN M. NICELY,

Committee.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL
REPORTS.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports reported at Tuesday Evening's session, which was received, amended, and adopted. As adopted, the report is, as follows:

It becomes us at all times to be grateful to the Giver of every good and perfect gift, for the numberless blessings, both temporal and spiritual, that He is bestowing upon us; but when convened as a Synod we should give thanks to God especially on behalf of the churches and congregations under our care "for the grace which is given" them by Jesus Christ, "that in every thing they are enriched by him." "So they come behind in no gift, waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." Blessed be the name of the most High God, that in the gift of His Son, He has with Him also freely given us all things. In the Church, the body of Christ, the infinite fullness of His grace is always present, because He himself is present, as He hath promised: "Lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world." Nor is this divine-human presence merely objective. Christ is not merely present before the members of the Church, in the persons of those commissioned by Him to minister in holy things. The word preached by them is *indeed* His word. The holy sacraments administered by them are the holy, visible signs and seals of His grace. In His Person the kingdom of God has come to us in all its gracious and saving power. The new Jerusalem from above has come down to earth. And in this holy city, whose builder and maker is God, we have, in the process of fulfillment and actualization, all that the prophets have said, and all that is foreshadowed by previous dispensations.

This is indeed a ground of thanksgiving and praise. But not merely on this ground do we call upon our souls and all that is within us to magnify and praise the name of the Lord. We do praise and thank Him for His presence with us and our people, in the sanctuary, and in the means of grace which He hath ordained. We rejoice that the candlestick has not been removed on account of the indifference and unfaithfulness of many: but that, on the contrary, our churches generally, like that of Corinth in the time of St. Paul, have been enriched in all things by the gracious presence of our blessed Lord.

According to the reports placed in our hands, we are authorized to say, that the labors of the ministers of this Synod, (all of whose lives and health, with one exception, have been precious in the sight of the Lord,) have been greatly blessed during the past year. The word has been faithfully preached throughout the length and breadth of our extended territory, and it has had free course, and has been glorified. The outward word has become the inner word by the presence and power of the Holy Ghost. The objective realities of our blessed religion, the incarnation, the life, the death, the resurrection, the ascension, and the Pentecostal return of our Lord to His Church have become more and more facts of consciousness amongst our people, during the past year.

Christmas, the nativity of Christ, means that, by the Holy Spirit, He is formed in us the hope of glory. His life of toil, suffering, and death, is our life of suffering and our crucifixion to the world, and of the world unto us. His resurrection from the dead is our resurrection from the

grave of sin, and our justification unto life. And, as for those who have departed this life—He is their resurrection and their everlasting life. In a word, our people are becoming more and more conscious of the rich contents of our undoubted, Christian faith, and hence more and more Christ-like. Therefore it is blessed news which we hear from the churches of the large accessions,—of the number of children (as well as of believing adults) baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost—of the unusually large number confirmed, during the year, in the grace which they received in their baptism—and the unusual interest taken in Sunday-school instruction, and catechisation as means to this end: and especially the very large increase of the number who partake regularly of the elements of our Saviour's broken Body and shed Blood. True, mention is made of trials, discouragements, and sufferings; but all things work together for good to them that love God—the called according to His purpose.

In conclusion, it becomes our sad and painful duty to note the death of Rev. Nicholas E. Gilds, a member of Synod, which took place during the last Synodical year. A brief account of his life and labors is given in the report of the Necrological Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

M. KIEFFER,
J. C. BOWMAN,
F. F. BAHNER,
A. C. GEARY,
A. H. BEITLER,
WM. DICE,
Committee.

For Statistical Tables see Appendix.

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

The Board of Education presented their annual report to Synod, during the session of Saturday, which was received, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education. The report is as follows, to wit:

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

The Board of Education, at its meeting in Hagerstown, at the close of the last annual sessions of Synod, re-elected the following officers, viz.: Rev. S. N. Callender, *President*, Rev. I. G. Brown, *Secretary*, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Treasurer*. The Executive Committee of the previous year was continued.

A special meeting of the Board was held in Greencastle, Pa., December 2nd, 1878, at which the Treasurer of the Board was authorized, directed, and empowered to receive a bequest "to Beneficiary Education in the Reformed Church," of one hundred and fifty dollars devised by Miss

Anna Maria Brechbill of Boiling Springs, Cumberland County, Pa., in her last will and testament, dated June 17th, 1873, and proven May 6th, 1876; and to also execute, deliver, and acknowledge a release therefor in the name of the Board. This was formally attended to a few days later, and the amount bequeathed was received. The necessary expenses paid for executing the requisite release and attorney's fee, in the case, amounted to seven dollars and seventy-five cents. Owing to informality in writing the will of Miss Brechbill, the Treasurer encountered serious difficulty in securing the bequest, having to make repeated trips to Carlisle in the discharge of this duty. For his trouble and individual expenses in the case, the Treasurer did neither ask, nor receive any compensation. To complicate matters, in addition to the informality of the will itself already referred to, when the Treasurer got on the trail of the bequest, he found that the executor of the estate had filed his final account, which had been audited, and by said audit, passed upon and approved by the Orphans' Court, the amount devised had been made payable to "the Reformed Church," instead of to the cause of Beneficiary Education in the Reformed Church. Had there been any disposition to contest the matter, it is feared, that the aim and object of the testatrix would have been frustrated, and the bequest lost to the cause.

The Board also held a meeting in Mercersburg, last May, at the close of the scholastic year in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, and attended the examinations of those students who had been receiving theological instruction in said institution. In the main, these examinations were creditable to the young men and satisfactory to the members of the Board that were in attendance.

Messrs. Franklin W. Brown, Samuel H. Eisenberg, Christian Gumbert, Lawrence M. Hensell, Daniel H. Leader, and Samuel L. Whitmore, constituting the Senior Class in the Post Graduate Course of Study in Mercersburg College, after having completed the regular three years curriculum of theological instruction were graduated and granted certificates of dismission with recommendation to their respective Classes for examination with a view to licensure. Messrs. Eisenberg and Leader were duly licensed to preach the Gospel by the Mercersburg Classis; Messrs. Hensell and Whitmore by the Virginia Classis; Mr. Brown by the West Susquehanna Classis; and Mr. Gumbert by the Westmoreland Classis. Wm. Wilberforce Deatrick also under the care and supervision of the Board, who had finished the full course of collegiate and theological study and had graduated in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., was likewise licensed by the Mercersburg Classis.

The Board, at its May meeting, also appointed the resident members of the Board a committee to attend the examinations of those beneficiary students, who were connected with the collegiate department of Mercersburg College. These took place during the month of June, and proved very satisfactory to the members of the committee.

Your Board is happy in being able to report, that, in no instance, did the scholarship-grade of the beneficiary students fall so low as to require special admonition to increased diligence and earnestness in study, as provided for by the Board two years ago, at its meeting in Baltimore. The general behavior of all our beneficiaries and also of those who received theological instruction in Mercersburg College during the year, so far as the Board is aware, has been commendable.

In this connection, the Board takes pleasure in stating to the Synod, that since the Synod, at its first annual meeting, held in Chambersburg,

took action requiring all beneficiary students to give a bond with approved security, for the funds paid them, not a single instance of violation of the conditions of the bonds has occurred.

During the past Synodical year, the Board had under its care and supervision ten young men as beneficiary students. Five of these have completed their theological course of study, and have been licensed, as already stated. Thus only five beneficiaries are now under the care of the Board, of the number sustaining this relation one year ago. The Maryland Classis at its annual meeting in May last made provision for two young men as beneficiary students, who have since been received under the care of the Board, viz : Calvin Boyd Heller and John Nevin Bauman, both members of Franklin and Marshall College. Consequently, the Board, at the present time, has only seven beneficiaries to supply with funds. They are to be provided for as follows: Mercersburg Classis three, Maryland Classis three, and Virginia Classis one.

It is to be regretted, that all the Classes do not see fit to carry forward their beneficiary operations in connection with your Board. Mercersburg, Maryland, Virginia, and Zion's Classis only in part, have been co-operating with the Board. Hence the amount in this report as contributed for this noble cause necessarily is considerably smaller than it would be, did all the Classes unite in this work of the Board.

The diminishing number of those who are preparing for the work of the ministry challenges earnest inquiry, whether we as members of the Synod of the Potomac are not coming short in the discharge of our duty, to seek out young men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, who may be put in a course of training for this most solemn and responsible of all callings. Whilst there seems at present to be even a surplus of ministers in our Reformed Zion, your Board cannot but regard such seeming overplus to be more apparent than real. Were the proper missionary spirit awakened in the Reformed Church in the United States, it is much more than likely, that there would be shortly felt a serious lack of ministerial workmen. The cry would soon be, too few, and not too many.

It is gratifying to the Board to be able to report to the Synod, that the Treasurer of the Board has punctually paid the beneficiaries their stipends in quarterly installments, up to this date, and, that there remains a handsome balance in the Treasury. The blessing of the great Head of the Church has manifestly been granted to the work of the Board, during the past year. Whilst there has been a scarcity of funds in many other departments of church work, there has been none with us in this. In former years, the Treasurer of the Board had either to draw upon his individual resources for the time being, or to borrow where best he could, in order to meet the current demands upon the Treasury by the beneficiaries.

At the present time, G. B. Resser, E. S. Hassler, and C. W. Summey are receiving theological instruction in the Post Graduate Department of Mercersburg College, and A. A. Black and E. R. Deatruck in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

The Board respectfully recommends the organization, as far as practicable, in all our congregations, of societies for securing funds for Beneficiary Education and the cause of Missions.

The Treasurer of the Board acknowledges the receipt of the following amounts for Beneficiary Education, during the last Synodical year. The

aggregate contributed by each pastoral charge is given, omitting the items and dates of payment, viz. :

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mercersburg Classis.

Altoona Charge,	\$ 60.00
Martinsburg "	50.82
Mercersburg "	50.00
Chambersburg Charge,	50.00
St. Clairsville "	50.00
College Church "	40.00
Woodcock Valley "	40.00
Everett "	40.00
Friend's Cove "	84.83
Mont Alto "	38.71
Schellsburg "	28.07
Sulphur Spring "	24.90
St. Thomas "	24.46
Bedford "	20.00
Waterstreet "	17.90
Yellow Creek "	16.00
Loudon "	16.00
Waynesboro "	15.00
Orbisonia "	15.00
Greencastle "	11.76
Grindstonehill "	7.77
Clover Creek "	5.00
Middleburg "	2.97
McConnellsburg "	2.40
Amount,	\$656.09

Maryland Classis.

Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick,	\$ 74.62
Westminster Charge,	32.71
Middletown Church,	30.00
Hagerstown Charge,	16.00
Glade "	12.25
First Church of Baltimore,	12.00
Jefferson Charge,	10.00
Cavetown "	10.00
Mechanicstown Charge,	8.00
Manchester "	8.00
Boonsboro "	8.00
St. Paul's Church of Baltimore,	5.00
Burkittsville Church,	4.00
Mount Pleasant Charge,	2.00
Amount,	\$282.58

Virginia Classis.

Cash per Treasurers,	\$162.19
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Zion's Classis.

Cash per Treasurer,	\$100.00
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Bequest.

Estate of Anna Maria Brechbill,.....\$160.00

RECAPITULATION.*Summary of Receipts.*

October 15, 1878. Balance in Treasury,.....	\$276.20
Received from Mercersburg Classis,.....	656.09
" " Maryland " 	232.58
" " Virginia " 	162.19
" " Zion's " 	100.00
Bequest of Miss Anna Maria Brechbill,.....	150.00
Total receipts,.....	\$1577.06

Summary of Payments.

Paid beneficiary students of Mercersburg Classis,.....	\$ 676.25
" " " Maryland " 	275.00
" " " Virginia " 	150.00
" " " Zion's " 	112.50
Expenses in getting bequest of Miss Brechbill,.....	7.75
Paid for Ledger for use of Treasurer,.....	1.80
Postage, revenue stamps, stationery, and discount,.....	1.76
October 15, 1879. Balance in Treasury,.....	852.50
Total payments,.....	\$1577.06

Respectfully submitted,

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We hereby certify, that we have carefully audited the accounts of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct.

The foregoing Synopsis and Recapitulation are a faithful statement of the same. There is a balance in the Treasury, at this time, of \$352.50.

J. HASSLER,

I. G. BROWN,

Auditing Committee.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 15, 1879.

II. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF VISITORS OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

RESPECTED BRETHREN:—The Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary takes pleasure in reporting that the divine favor has continued to rest on our school of the prophets.

The sessions of the Seminary were opened on the first Thursday of September 1878, and continued during the year without interruption.

The following persons were admitted into the Seminary at the opening of the year as members of the Junior class, nine in number: Albert A. Black, Thomas A. Fenstermacher, Edwin A. Gernant, Cosmos H. Herbst, Newton J. Miller, Cyrus J. Musser, John W. Rauch, Calvin S. Slagel, and Joshua Wolbach.

All had regularly graduated at College, with the exception of one, who was admitted on the basis of the partial course. Six are graduates of Franklin and Marshall, one of Mercersburg and one of Muhlenberg College.

The Faculty commends the industry, moral habits and Christian character of the students and reports that the moral tone of the institution compares favorably with that of previous years. The attendance of the students has been good. Several of them, however, were under the necessity of absenting themselves during a part of the year and were excused by the Board. The examinations at the close of the year were satisfactory and regarded as an advance on those of the previous year.

The following persons, seven in number, having pursued the course prescribed in the Seminary, and sustained their final examinations creditably, were dismissed and recommended for licensure: Robert C. Bowling, Simon P. Brown, W. Wilberforce Deatrick, Maximilian F. Dumstre, Thomas J. Hacker, Thomas S. Land, and Silas F. Laury.

All of these with the exception of one have entered upon the active duties of the ministry.

During the past year the Secretary of the Board was requested to prepare a digest of the Rules and Regulations of the Seminary, adopted by the Board from time to time. They were revised and amended, and a copy was ordered to be recorded in the minutes of the Board, as the only rules to be hereafter binding. Those omitted are not regarded as any longer holding. The Board directed that the charter of the Seminary should be published in the next year's catalogue.

We do not think it necessary at this time to direct attention to the great importance of the Seminary to the prosperity of the church. We simply refer to what has already been said in former reports in this regard. It will continue to need the sympathies, the prayers and the help of the church, in order that it may continue to perform its work and enlarge the sphere of its beneficent operations. We still need laborers properly prepared for the harvest, and especially at this time, when the church is engaged in much inward struggle to do her part in extending the kingdom in the world. The time has come to extend the border of her habitation, to lengthen her cords and to strengthen her stakes. In order to carry out her divine impulses, she will continue to need a supply of men from year to year, who will be thoroughly trained and fully up to the demands of the age in culture and preparation for their work.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL, *Secretary.*

Lancaster, Oct. 1, 1879.

III. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom had been referred the Report of the Board of Education, the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and item 7 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures, reported during the session of Wednesday Morning, which was received, and adopted, and is as follows, viz.:

To the Synod of the Potomac.

Your Committee on Education respectfully report. The documents placed in our hands are the Report of the Board of Education of this Synod; the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and a communication from the Stated Clerk of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, containing the action of said Synod with reference to a deficiency in the salaries of the Professors in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster.

From the Report of the Board of Education, we learn that, during the year, the deportment and progress of the students under the care of the Board have been good. Six students graduated in the Post Graduate Course in Mercersburg College, and one at the Theological Seminary at Lancaster. The Board had under its care ten young men as Beneficiaries; five of whom have graduated. There are at present seven under its care. The financial condition of the Board is good. During the year, a bequest of \$150.00 was received from the estate of Miss Anna Maria Brechbill of Boiling Springs, Cumberland County, Pa. The total receipts of the Treasury, including the balance of \$276.20 in the Treasury at the time of the previous report, were \$1577.06. The expenditures were \$1224.56, leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$352.50.

The Board respectfully recommends the organization, as far as practicable, in all congregations under the care of Synod, of societies for securing funds for Beneficiary Education and Missions.

Your Committee recommend for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the thanks of this Synod be and hereby are given to the Treasurer of the Board of Education for his labor and trouble in securing the legacy of Miss Brechbill

Resolved, That the cause of Beneficiary Education be renewedly commended to the liberality of our people.

From the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., we learn that this Institution continues to prosper. Ten students were admitted, at the opening of the session the 1st Thursday of September, 1878, and seven graduated at the close of the Seminary year, last May.

Your Committee recommend the following resolution for adoption:

Resolved, That this Synod is gratified to learn the continued prosperity of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster.

The communication from the Stated Clerk of the Synod of U. S. contains the following resolutions, adopted by said Synod at its late meeting in Lebanon, Pa., relating to the deficiency in the salaries of the Professors in the Theological Seminary:—"Resolved, That the several Classes be and are hereby directed to appoint some particular time for each pastor to take up a collection in his charge to meet this deficiency, during the coming year. *Resolved*, That similar action be recommended to the Synods of Pittsburgh and of the Potomac."

With reference to this, your Committee recommend the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That the request of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States be and hereby is commended to the several Classes composing this Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

T. F. HOFFMEIER,
ELLIS N. KREMER,
JOHN KRETZING,
D. W. EBBERT,
H. WIRT SHRIVER,
LEVI BOLGER,
JOHN M. STONER,

Committee.

At the election for members of the different Boards, held during the session of Tuesday Evening, Revs. Wm. Goodrich, A. J. Heller, and

Elder J. Heyser were elected members of the Board of Education for the term of three years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. Wm. Goodrich.....	3 years,	October, 1882.
" A. J. Heller.....	3 "	" 1882.
Elder J. Heyser.....	3 "	" 1882.
Rev. I. G. Brown.....	2 "	" 1881.
" Wm. C. Cremer.....	2 "	" 1881.
" S. N. Callender.....	2 "	" 1881.
" Wm. M. Dentrick.....	1 "	" 1880.
" J. S. Kieffer.....	1 "	" 1880.
" J. W. Santee.....	1 "	" 1880.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions were laid before Synod, and referred to the Standing Committee on Missions.

The Standing Committee on Missions reported during the session of Monday Morning. The report was received, and provision was made for holding a Missionary Meeting on Monday Evening. The remainder of the Report was amended and adopted at the session of Tuesday Evening. These Reports are as follows:

I. REPORT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Potomac.

REV. FATHERS AND BRETHREN:—We herewith transmit to your Reverend Body the annual reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States (Tri-Synodic.) The reports present all the information that is deemed necessary, at this time, to communicate.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *President.*

WM. H. H. SNYDER, *Secretary.*

II. REPORT OF SUPERINTENDENT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, to the Synod of Pittsburg, and the Synod of the Potomac.

REVEREND AND DEAR BRETHREN:—By the merciful providence of God, the Superintendent of Missions was raised up from the attack of sickness, from which he suffered a year ago, and permitted, with returning strength, to discharge the responsible duties of his office during the course of the year. It is with gratitude to God, the author of all good gifts, that he now presents this, his second annual report of the condition

of the missions under the care of the Board in the different States of the Union, embracing the territory more particularly under the supervision of the Synods herein addressed. The work committed to our hands as a Church has not been without manifest signs of the divine favor. As far as it has been prospered we ascribe all the honor to the one Great Shepherd of the flock, in whose service we have been called as fellow laborers.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Grace Church, Easton.—Members 75. Baptisms 18. Confirmations 4. S. S. scholars 100. The Sabbath-school is in a prosperous condition. Amount contributed for benevolent purposes \$12, for local objects \$150. Church property valued at \$3,000 with a small debt, which will no doubt be removed at no distant day. The congregation is making a gradual progress, with no immediate prospects of becoming self-supporting. It is, however, doing a useful and necessary work, and deserves the assistance which it has been thus far receiving. Pastor, D. Y. Heisler. Appropriation last year \$200 with some additional assistance from Classis. New appropriation \$150.

Christ's Mission, Allentown.—This mission purchased a church building during the past year for \$1500, upon which \$300 has been paid. The balance is to be paid in annual installments of \$200 each, which, it is believed, will not be too much for the congregation, the pastor not receiving any salary from his people. This step, a wise and judicious one, has had a salutary effect upon the members, whilst it has made a favorable impression on the community, who now regard this enterprise as giving promise of permanence. Business in the neighborhood of East Allentown is reviving, and the prospects of the mission are regarded as more encouraging than for a number of years past. Members 90. Baptisms 13. Confirmations 14. S. S. scholars 157. Benevolence \$15.18. Local objects \$350. Appropriations hitherto \$300. Appropriation for the coming year the same, to which the Classis proposes to add a small amount. Pastor, J. Fritzinger.

Catasauqua.—This mission has been suffering from the burden of a heavy debt for a good while. During the past year this difficulty culminated in the sale of the church building, which is now held by one of the original creditors, without however interfering with its use by the congregation. In these trying circumstances, the members have remained faithful to the discharge of their duties, and the spiritual interests of the congregation have not suffered. It is earnestly hoped, that, in the course of the year, they may again be able to secure possession of their own house of worship. It is believed the severe trials of the congregation will be overruled for good. Members 90. Baptisms 18. S. S. scholars 170. Benevolence \$34. Local objects \$190. Appropriations last year with help from Classis \$300. Present year \$300. Pastor, J. J. Crist.

St. John's, Reading.—Members 305. Baptisms 40. Additions 29. S. S. scholars 325. Attendance at church good. Benevolence \$30. For local objects \$1300. This congregation has continued in its prosperous condition, and its prospects now are better than they were a year ago. It has a valuable church property worth over \$20,000, on which, however, a heavy debt is still resting, which occasions both pastor and people much anxiety. Thus far it has not proved a burden too heavy to be borne. It has been managed with much prudence. The amount reduced during the year was \$300. With the return of prosperity in business and work for the members of the church, most of whom are poor in this world's goods, the congregation will make greater strides in prosperity and gradually become self-supporting. The pastor, J. W. Steinmets, has

much hard work to perform, in which he is sustained by warm hearts among his own people, and in the sister churches of the city. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$250.

St. John's, West Philadelphia.—The health of the pastor of this church, which was seriously threatened one year ago, was providentially restored, and, at the earnest request of his people, he was prevailed upon to remain and continue his labors amongst them. This had a happy effect on the congregation and seemed to give it a new impulse to strengthen the things that remained. From observations made on the ground, the Superintendent feels justified in regarding this as one of the most hopeful missions. The church property is valued at \$10,000, upon which there is some debt, the interest on which, together with the current expenses, and various projected improvements about the church, is taxing somewhat heavily the strength of the congregation and calling forth its liberality. Its prospects of becoming self-supporting at no distant day are good. Members 80. Additions since last October 19. Baptisms 6. S. S. scholars 70. Attendance on the services of the sanctuary good. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$300. Pastor, J. Samuel Vandersloot.

Second Church, Harrisburg.—This mission has a good house of worship worth \$7,000, with a convenient lecture-room attached to it. The debt on which is now nearly liquidated, \$80 having been paid on it during the past year. The Sunday-school is large and flourishing, numbering 220 scholars. It has a missionary society on the apostolic plan, in which the young and old take deep interest. It was one of the first formed under the recommendation of the Board. Members 104. Baptisms 7. Benevolence \$60. Local objects \$500. Appropriation last year \$250. This year \$250. Pastor G. W. Snyder.

Zwingli Church, Harrisburg.—This is an exclusively German mission. During part of the past year, it was served by Rev. Frederick Fox, after his return from San Francisco. Owing to the gloomy condition of the congregation in view of its indebtedness, and for other reasons, he has recently withdrawn from the field and it is at present vacant. The property is worth at least \$5,000, on which there is an indebtedness of \$2,000, which it seems, has been found difficult to manage. Members 50. Baptisms 4. Additions 2. Sunday-school disbanded. Benevolence \$4. Local objects \$250 Appropriation last year \$300. Vacant.

Columbia.—This congregation has been pursuing a prosperous course for a number of years past. During last winter, the pastor, Rev. C. Clever, was called to another field of labor. His resignation was followed by serious difficulties, which threatened at one time to undo the labor of years. Fortunately the storm passed away, and the trouble which threatened to distract the congregation for years to come, was adjusted in a truly Christian manner. Its prospects are encouraging as in years gone by. It is believed that this affliction, which was for a season, will be overruled for good, and help to consolidate the congregation better than it was before. Peace and harmony prevail and there is a general desire to build up on the true foundation, which is Christ Jesus. Members 157. Baptisms 21. Additions 7. S. S. scholars 170. Benevolence \$45.73. Local objects \$931. Appropriation last year \$50. This year \$150. Pastor, C. S. Gerhard.

Wilkesbarre.—Communicants 275. Additions, since October last, by baptism 38. By confirmation 27, and by certificate 25. S. S. scholars 160, a gain of 35. Collected for benevolent purposes \$25. For local purposes \$550. The original cost of the church was \$13,000. The debt is \$6,000, of which \$3,000 will be cancelled during the coming year, a part having been thus cancelled already. The mission is making progress, and

gaining the confidence of the community. It is German and English united. The question of language has thus far created no difficulty. Both classes of people worship in the same church, in harmony and peace. The missionary extends his labors in the Wyoming Valley, and preaches at points, where congregations may be organized at some future time. There is room for extending the Church further in this part of the State. Appropriation last year \$400. This year the same. Pastor, F. K. Levan.

Lock Haven.—This mission has made substantial progress during the past year, which is so much the more encouraging, in view of the deplorable condition in which it had come to be involved, a few years ago, when the present pastor took charge of it. With the help of Classis, it has secured for itself a house of worship of its own, upon which a debt is still resting, which however is not oppressive to the congregation. The building cost only \$2,200. In a few years, after some repairs are made to it, it will be worth much more. The pastor and people are willing to trust in the Lord for the future, as with His blessing many difficulties, which seemed insurmountable, have vanished in the past. Members 57. Baptisms 6. Additions 7. S. S. scholars 80. Benevolence \$6. Local purposes \$264.61. Indebtedness liquidated since October last \$206. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$300. Pastor, Isaac S. Stahr.

Wilkinsburg and East Liberty.—Both of these missions suffered severely from the depression of the times, and found it difficult to meet current expenses, and interest on heavy church debts. There was, as a consequence, a feeling of discouragement among the members, which was adverse to the growth of the congregations. Under these circumstances, it was thought best, to unite the two missions, as they are not far apart, and allow them to be served by one pastor. They cordially united upon the Rev. J. W. Knappenberger, after the two former pastors had resigned. This arrangement has proved satisfactory. It has relieved them of part of their financial burden. They are now better able to meet their pecuniary obligations, and a general feeling of encouragement and hope has sprung up, which argues well for the future. Mr. Knappenberger entered upon his duties in January last, and receives an appropriation of \$550, the amount given to the two former pastors. Members 90. S. S. scholars 120. There is an indebtedness upon both these churches. The indebtedness, on the church at Wilkinsburg, was reduced during the year.

Orbisonia.—This mission has been growing and doing well during the year. Many of the people are poor, but they are faithful to Christ and His Church, showing that they appreciate the kindness of the Church in extending help to them, by the interest they take in their congregations. During the past year, a new Church, costing \$800 was erected and paid for. Congregations 3. Members 106. Baptisms 14. Additions 14. S. S. scholars 85. Benevolence \$47. Local objects \$307. A debt of \$350 resting upon one of the Churches has been nearly provided for. Appropriation last year \$150. This year the same. Pastor, J. M. Schick.

Sulphur Spring, Bedford County.—Congregations 3. Members 132. Baptisms 11. Additions 5. The church and parsonage at Mann's Choice are worth \$2,700. The debt is small. Benevolence \$33. Local objects \$357. The pastor reports that he is at present engaged in establishing missionary societies, for which the people seem to have been prepared. The mission is making a gradual progress, and gaining the confidence and respect of the community. Appropriation last year \$200. This year the same. Pastor, W. A. Gring.

Chambersburg.—Since the missionary left this congregation more than a year ago, it has been served by the pastor at Chambersburg, Rev. W. C. Cremer, by appointment of Classis. In this way the spiritual interests of a small body of Germans has been provided for. This arrangement is probably the best that could be made for them. There are no indications that it will grow in numerical strength in the immediate future as a German church.

Duncannon.—Members 125. Baptisms 7. Additions 14. S. S. scholars 160. Benevolence \$50. Local objects \$200. Value of church property \$2,800. The Classis of Zion paid \$1,100 and the congregation \$200 for the removal of the remaining debt on the church. Attendance good and the congregation encouraged in their work. Prospects of becoming self-supporting. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$250. Pastor, Uriah Henry Heilman.

First Church, Allegheny City.—This mission had been without a pastor and without preaching for more than a year. At the meeting of Allegheny Classis at Pittsburg last Spring, after a careful examination into its affairs, it was found to be in a truly deplorable condition. Still it was not considered to be without hope, and the Classis authorized the Superintendent to supply it temporarily with the services of a missionary with the view of ascertaining whether anything could be done to resuscitate it, and place it on a better foundation. The licentiate Robert C. Bowling was selected for this purpose, and he took charge of the mission for a period of two months. His labors have been satisfactory, and the prospects now are, that the congregation will recover itself, and that if assistance can be extended to it for a while, it may yet be raised above impending difficulties, and be made a prosperous congregation. In view of these facts, the Board at its recent meeting commissioned Mr. Bowling as missionary at Allegheny city, with an appropriation of \$400.

Shenandoah.—Members 200. Baptisms 25. Additions 35. S. S. scholars 220. Attendance good. Value of church property \$3,000. The debt which has been considerably reduced during the present pastorate, is at present, about \$2,000. Amount paid for local purposes including pastor's salary \$500. The prospects of becoming self-supporting are encouraging. The principal difficulty in the way seems to be, the large amount of indebtedness. The appropriation last year was \$300, which has been made up by one or two congregations, an example much to be commended. Appropriation this year \$300. Pastor, J. G. Neff.

Johnstown.—There was a Reformed congregation at this place several years ago, but the church was sold and the congregation disbanded, very few of the members, however, surrendered their church connections. Their number in fact was increased by additions from other churches in the surrounding country. Upwards of forty members of our Church were found in the town, who desired the services of a minister of their own faith. The Rev. William H. Bates, whose charge is contiguous, was requested to take charge of this interest, and serve it as a missionary for the present. The prospects of this new mission are good. It may perhaps need some help in the future. It is promising. Mr. Bates does not receive any appropriation.

St. Luke's, Lancaster.—This congregation was organized in January last with nine members. It at present numbers 22, thirteen having been confirmed at Whitsuntide. The Sunday-school, made up principally of children of the poor, is prosperous and doing a good work. It numbers 125 scholars. Thus far this mission has been worshipping either in an engine house or a school house, neither of which was a suitable place for

worship. This difficulty, it is expected, will be removed before long. An effort is at present in progress to erect a chapel yet this Fall, subscriptions for which have been received amounting to something over \$1,200. The mission was taken under the care of the Board in December last, but the pastor had charge of it in April a year ago, without any visible means of support, except in his own resources, sustained by faith in God. He receives an appropriation from the Board of \$300 and such other aid from his congregation and the other churches in the city, as is needed for his temporal support. Pastor, Rev. Jacob F. Wiant.

Overton, Bradford County.—This congregation was formerly under the care of the Board, but had been vacant for a number of years past. The members hungering for the bread of life, have been exerting themselves to secure a pastor, in which the Superintendent has been assisting them. They have united on the licentiate, Phaon S. Kohler, who is now laboring among them with acceptance, and with good prospects of success. He has just formed a large class of catechumens. The services on the Sabbath are encouragingly attended. Thus far he serves only two congregations, and a preaching point at Dushore. There are two other small congregations in the neighborhood of Dushore, which have not as yet entered into the arrangement with the other two, but may still do so. Members thus far reported 105. S. S. scholars at Overton 80. Appropriation not yet determined. Church property worth about \$900.

Latrobe.—The congregation at Latrobe during the year was detached from several country congregations, and placed under the care of the Board as a mission, by the recommendation of the Board of Missions of the Synod of Pittsburg. It was believed, that it needed more pastoral labor, and that under this new arrangement, it would grow more rapidly and in a few years become self-supporting. The pastor reports, that facts thus far do not encourage that view of the case, although the charge has been making encouraging progress during the present pastorate. Members 80. Baptisms 9. Additions 14. S. S. scholars 55. Church property \$4,000. Debt \$1,800. Benevolence \$50. Amount paid for local objects \$850. Appropriations \$200. Pastor, G. D. Gurley.

Mansfield—An independent German congregation at this place applied to the Classis of Allegheny last Spring to be received into the Reformed Church, and requested the services of the Rev. Charles Knepper, as their pastor. The request was granted, provided certain conditions were first complied with, and in that event the Executive Council voted an appropriation of \$50.

Trinity Mission, York County.—About ten months ago the Rev. W. H. Xanders was appointed by the Council to labor as missionary in the town of York, and at other places in the neighborhood without an appropriation. He has organized a new congregation at Glen Rock, served an organized congregation at New Freedom, and has several preaching places, one of which is Trinity chapel in York, where congregations may be organized in the course of time. The prospects of the mission are represented as encouraging. Members 50. Baptisms 2. Confirmation 7. S. S. scholars 250. Church property worth about \$700. Amount collected for local purposes \$275.

Sharon—The Sharon charge, in Mercer county, was taken under the care of the Board as a mission in accordance with the request of the Board of Missions of the Pittsburgh Synod. Its pastor had the charge of it for a number of years without the necessary support. He had to depend upon the help of his friends to keep his family. The congregation was also involved in financial difficulties, which interfered with its prosperi-

ty. Accordingly, help was extended to it to the amount of \$100, which was thankfully received, and proved to be of material account in encouraging pastor and people. Since the congregation came under the care of the Board it has been doing well. Members 135. Additions 22. Value of church property \$4,000. Appropriation for coming year \$100. Pastor, F. P. Hartmetz.

VIRGINIA.

Winchester.—The statistics of this mission, as compared with those of previous years, shows an encouraging degree of progress. Congregations 2. Outposts 2. Members 129. Baptisms 3. Additions 17. S. S. scholars 85. Value of church property \$7,700. Debt on parsonage \$675. It was reduced \$225 during the year. Benevolence \$33. Local objects \$667. The affairs of this congregation are conducted with a considerable degree of system and economy. It is being gradually strengthened by emigration from the North, and is doing a useful work in the Valley of Virginia. It will need help from the Church a few years longer. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$250. Pastor, Charles G. Fisher.

Middlebrook.—The two congregations constituting this mission, under the care of Rev. A. J. Whitmore, became self-sustaining during the year. The pastor, believing that he could strengthen and still further consolidate his charge, as well as occupy several important missionary points in the vicinity, resigned, and a call was extended to his brother, Rev. S. L. Whitmore, who became the pastor in June last, and has encouraging prospects of usefulness before him. Additions during the year 17. Baptisms 11. S. S. scholars 117. Mr. Whitmore has entered upon his new field of labor with true missionary zeal. He preaches at three points, at one of which a new congregation is to be organized and a new church erected before long. Appropriation for the new mission \$150.

DELAWARE.

St. John's, Wyoming, Kent County.—Members 85. Baptisms 4. Additions 15. S. S. scholars 100. Value of church property \$2,000. Debt \$250. Benevolence \$24.65. Local objects \$375.17. The missionary reports, that services were held during the season of Lent, and every evening during holy week. The Easter communion was the largest ever held in the history of the congregation. The interest in these services drew many nearer to God. In July last, the congregation celebrated the tenth anniversary of its existence. The services are represented as being of an interesting and profitable kind. An effort is in progress to liquidate the remaining debt on the church. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$275. Pastor, E. H. Dittenbacher.

MARYLAND.

Cumberland.—Members 150. Baptisms 6. Additions 6. S. S. scholars 150. Benevolence \$30. Local objects \$800. The church property is worth from \$7,000 to \$8,000 with a debt of \$500. No reduction of the debt during the year. The mission is making slow but steady progress. The Sunday-school is in a prosperous condition and promises well for the future. The holy days were observed with much interest and profit to the people, and the number of communicants exceeded those of previous years. The missionary has established a small mission at Keyser in West Virginia, which he visits from time to time. Appropriation last year \$250. This year the same. Pastor, F. R. Schwedes.

Frostburg.—A few years ago this congregation supported its own pastor, but it fell upon evil times and it was no longer able to maintain

itself. Its members, being mostly miners, could do nothing for the church. Its pastor made many sacrifices to keep his flock together. In order to prevent the dispersion of its members, the Classis of Somerset declared it a mission, and placed it as such under the care of the Board. It agreed to pay through the Board for its support, for one year, \$600. This accomplished the desired result, and saved the church from great distress, if not from entire disintegration. It is understood, that it will now need no further appropriation. It is German and English, and a well ordered congregation, with a membership of over 200, and a large Sunday-school. Its members are liberal when they have work. Pastor, John Ruhl.

Ridgely, Caroline County.—Organized over a year ago by Rev. E. H. Diefenbacher, and served by him until recently. Rev. H. King was authorized to visit and explore this field, last Spring, with the view to a permanent settlement, if he desired it. He served the charge two months and then withdrew, believing he would be more useful in some other parts of the Church. The Rev. Joseph Hannabury was commissioned to take his place. He has entered upon his work in faith and hope. At present he serves only one organized congregation, the one at Ridgely, but he expects to spend much of his time in preaching at other points in the peninsula, with the view of organizing other churches in the future. It is believed, that missionary efforts in this section of country will be attended with encouraging results in the course of a few years. The congregation has not yet commenced to build the house of worship which it has in contemplation. Members 48. Baptisms 4. Additions 10. Appropriation \$300. Pastor, Joseph Hannabury.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington—Members 35. Baptisms 2. Additions 15. S. S. scholars 40, most of whom are from families belonging to the church. Amount collected from local purposes \$200. The congregation still worships in a rented hall, which is a serious difficulty in the way of its progress. It needs very much a house of its own. Until this is secured it is not likely that some families will be willing to connect themselves with the mission. They prefer waiting until they have some more tangible evidence that the enterprise is to be permanently established. Thus far, some few gifts have been forwarded to the treasurer for the erection of a chapel, but not in sufficient amounts as to justify a forward movement in purchasing or building. The pledges made for this purpose by the Synods and Classis of Maryland, should be promptly met and paid. The mission is an expensive one, and true economy dictates, that it should be placed in a position to become self-supporting at as early a date as possible. When, however, it has once reached that point, it will be a monument to the honor of the Reformed Church, in which her children from different parts of the country, will find a spiritual home in time to come. But, before this is consummated, much faith, good works and almsgiving, along with the hearty sympathy and co-operation of the Church, will be needed. Pastor, G. B. Russell, D. D. Appropriation last year \$1,200. This year \$600.

KANSAS.

Emporia.—During the past year the Rev. L. C. Edmonds, already residing in Kansas, was commissioned to labor at Emporia and vicinity. He was able to devote only part of his time to the work of preaching and making explorations. He reports, that we have many members living in the State of Kansas, and a wide field of missionary labor. He has preached at different points, and, to some extent, explored the country,

but has confined his labors mostly to Emporia, where we have enough members to form a respectable congregation. They have not, as yet, been organized. They wish a missionary who will devote all his time to the work. The missionary labors under great disadvantage, for the want of a suitable place of worship, being, thus far, under the necessity of holding his services in other churches at unseasonable hours. Appropriation \$200.

CALIFORNIA.

Salem, Napa City.—This mission has had much to encounter from the outside world, to whom the gospel is a savor of death unto death and not of life unto life. It has, however, maintained its ground, and the members have remained faithful to the work committed to their hands. The present pastor has been for more than a year in his charge, and has not been without encouragement in his work. He instructs a class weekly throughout the year, which is well attended. The Whitsuntide services were well attended, and produced a favorable impression. The congregation is small, but it has favorable prospects of an increase during the coming year. Members 24. Baptisms 10. Additions 9. S. S. scholars 32. Value of church property \$2,800. Debt \$750. Benevolence \$6.00. Local objects \$250. Appropriation last year \$300. This year \$200. Pastor, J. H. Krueger.

San Francisco.—In addition to the mission at Napa, we have two other churches in California, one at Stockton and the other at San Francisco, which are self-supporting and are doing well. The pastors have not confined themselves to their own congregations exclusively, but have sought to extend the Church in the regions beyond. The field, however, is large, and the demand for more laborers has been growing stronger and more urgent. Under these circumstances the Council commissioned the licentiate, the Rev. L. F. Woerle, to labor at San Francisco, or neighboring places under the direction of the Classis of San Francisco. He was ordained to this work, a few months ago, at York, Pa., by a committee of the Classis of Zion, and is now in the field engaged in his new sphere of labor. He has taken charge of a mission at Alameda, in the vicinity of San Francisco, and the Board has voted him an appropriation of \$100. The demands of this part of our missionary ground will require the services of one or two other missionaries at no distant day. It is hoped, that we, as a Church, will be prepared to respond to the call to supply the multitudes of foreign Germans, in this far distant country with a pure gospel, many of whom are without the ordinary means of grace, and many also without God and without hope in the world.

OREGON AND WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Portland.—Members 80. Baptisms 25. Additions 19. Benevolence \$17. Local objects \$1,050. This mission has been making its usual substantial progress. The services at the church festivals in the Spring, made a deep impression on the hearts of the people, and drew larger audiences to the church than ever before. This church, established on an evangelical basis, in the midst of much opposition from without, is now a permanent fact. The property worth \$8,000 is free of debt. Various improvements on the streets during the past year became a heavy tax on the church, for which the ladies of the congregation supplied a considerable part of the money needed to bear this additional burden of expense. The church expects to celebrate the fifth anniversary of its organization during the month of September, in connection with the first meeting of the Classis of Portland-Oregon. It expects to become self-supporting at

no distant day. The missionary frequently preaches in the new towns, which are springing up in various directions, with the view of establishing new fields of labor for other missionaries. Openings of this kind are very numerous, and it seems to be only necessary, that we should send a sufficient supply of efficient laborers, in order that we may reap rich harvests in this part of the Pacific coast. The establishment of the new Classis in Oregon will, it is believed, be of much account in carrying forward this work. Statistics did not arrive in time to be inserted in this report. Appropriation last year \$300. This year the same. Pastor, John Gantenbein.

Salem.—The field occupied by the missionary at this post, was divided during the year, and a portion of it, including the Meridian congregation, given to another missionary. He retained two of the congregations, the one at Salem, the other at Silverton, preaching at other points, and occasionally making excursions into more distant parts of the State. At Salem divine services have thus far been held in a hall, but recently a wealthy citizen of Salem, presented the congregation with a lot of ground, upon which it is now proposed to erect a church. Appropriation last year \$250. This year \$250. Pastor, J. Muellhaupt

Canby, Clackamas County.—During the past year the Rev. Julius Lange, was commissioned as missionary, to take charge of a portion of the field of Rev. Muellhaupt and of other important points. He has at present one organized church at Meridian. He fills appointments at other places, walks long distances over rough roads and through inclement weather, to gather his fellow-countrymen into the Christian fold.—Many of his people are Swiss emigrants, who are just clearing off the land, and are not able to do much for the support of the Gospel, but are strongly devoted to the Reformed faith. Brother Lange makes many sacrifices, labors hard as a missionary and finds it necessary to devote part of his time in teaching in a little attic, which is his study, his bedroom and his school house at the same time. This rigid economy is necessary in order that he may provide for his temporal support. Appropriation \$200.

Walla Walla.—During the past year the Rev. George Mechttersheimer was commissioned as missionary at Walla Walla and other places. He had been a resident of that place for some time, engaged in laboring and teaching among the Germans with the view of organizing them into a congregation. He will now be able to devote more of his time to this work, and to the establishment of other new missions under the direction of Classis. Appropriation \$100.

SUMMARY.

Number of missionaries, ten more than last year,.....	38
Members,.....	2,910
Additions during the year,.....	325
Baptisms,.....	292
Amount collected during the year for benevolence,.....	\$ 525
“ “ “ “ “ local objects,.....	\$ 8,238
Value of Church Property about	\$125,000
Indebtedness about	\$30,000

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

From the Treasurer's Report it will be seen that the contributions for missions, since the last report was made to the Synods, amounted to \$7,326.43. This, however, does not cover the full period of a year by more

than a month. Some of the monies contributed by churches, especially the harvest offerings, have not yet been reported. How much the whole will amount to at the end of the year, cannot now be precisely stated. The probability is that it will not be quite as much as it was during the previous year. This is most likely owing to the fact that an appeal was made and special collections were lifted for missions in the month of January, 1878, whereas this was not done during last Winter. The amount due the missionaries on the 1st of July last, was \$2,643. The amount of indebtedness for monies borrowed is \$550, which is \$250 less than last year. The Board has \$2,500 invested for which interest is paid. The expenditure for carrying forward the operations of the Board during the coming year will be something larger than it was during the previous year. To meet the current expenses during the coming year, the Board will need \$14,000, for which we suggest that the different Synods concerned raise the following amounts:

The Synod of the United States,.....	\$8,000
The Synod of the Potomac,.....	3,500
The Synod of Pittsburgh,.....	2,500

We further suggest that the different Synods request all the churches, or as far as possible, to lift one collection for the relief of our missionaries, during the Advent or Epiphany period of the coming year. Also, that the Synods and Classes at their coming meetings, give special attention to the claims of the missionary cause, urge the importance of systematic benevolence, the further increase of missionary societies, in congregations and Sunday-schools, also missionary festivals, and the adoption of such measures as will tend to secure more promptly the payments of the Class-ical apportionments, so that the wants of our suffering missionaries may be more promptly met, and our missionary operations be more widely extended.

REMARKS.

In closing this report we call attention to a few facts. The first is the great extent and the urgent necessities of the field which we are called on to cultivate. We have been not altogether remiss in providing for the spiritual wants of the missionary ground covered by the three Synods. Beyond that territory, however, we have as yet done comparatively little: and yet the calls upon us from our own people, as from others beyond our immediate limits, to supply them with ministers to break unto them the bread of life, are urgent, and numerous. It is the call of the Divine Master addressed to us, to feed His sheep, to feed His lambs. Many of our people have settled in the new States and Territories of the West, who are without ministers and without churches. Our brethren in the West through their own missionary agencies, are doing what they can, but their efforts should be supplemented by the greater resources of the East. There is much work for us to do in Kansas, Nebraska, Texas, and neighboring States, where as yet we have scarcely made a beginning. Still farther westward in the Pacific States, we have indeed made a fair start, but the demand for more laborers in that field comes with impressive earnestness in almost every communication that reaches us from that distant country. There is also work for us to accomplish in the Southern States as great perhaps as elsewhere. It is a serious question whether the time has not come to put forth efforts to revive and expand our Church in that part of the Union. There is no reason in fact, why our Church should not be represented in all of the Southern States, as it would most likely be to-day, if the efforts of our Fathers in former years in that direction had been properly followed up. A similar remark may be made

in regard to the New England States. There we have only two ministers of our own denomination, and yet there is a German population in most of the large towns and cities, in some of which there are no German ministers, and the destitute people never hear the Gospel in a language which they understand. The Rev. L. B. Swartz, pastor of a Reformed church, in Boston, has labored with apostolic zeal for his German brethren, not only in Boston, but elsewhere for over thirty years. During this period he has preached in many parts of Massachusetts, and started some missions, which from the want of support from our Missionary Boards, have fallen into the hands of other denominations that came forward and granted them the needed assistance. After much labor and extraordinary sacrifices on his part, he finds it now difficult to maintain himself at his post at Boston on account of the financial embarrassments of his own church. The superintendent after a careful examination of the whole field, during a visit this Summer, is convinced that New England as missionary ground has claims on the Reformed Church, which she cannot safely overlook or ignore. As a beginning, he thinks there ought to be two missionaries located at Boston at once, one English the other German. This would be sufficient for the present, and might, it is believed, be accomplished without too heavy an outlay of money. In a few years other laborers might be added to their number and new missions be established for the great spiritual destitution in other places.

There is another fact, which ought to be brought home at this particular time to the conscience of the Church. It is the inadequacy of the means at the disposal of the Board to carry forward its proper work. It is with great difficulty that the missionaries under the care of the Board are sustained. As a body they are faithful, patient, and self-sacrificing laborers in our waste places. But their support is meagre, and they are often discouraged, distressed and harrassed in their work by care and anxiety to provide for themselves and families the means necessary for their temporal support. What they are entitled to receive from the Church as their appropriation is not paid them promptly, and they grow weary in waiting during long and dreary months for the long expected relief. All this should be remedied. In addition, the Church should provide the Board with the means necessary to extend its borders into new and as yet, unoccupied regions. This we believe will be done as soon as we get our people more generally to see the great need of supplying their fellow men with the Gospel. We have the poor always with us, and they who are willing to feed the bodies of men, as our people are disposed to do, will not withhold the hand of charity from those who are perishing for lack of knowledge. As ministers and people we all need more of the Spirit of Christ and His Apostles, which was the spirit of missions and self-sacrifice. In proportion as we are imbued with their spirit, in that degree, will our work go forward and prosper in our hands.

But whilst at times we are almost crushed in view of the comparatively meagre efforts which we are making for the building up of the Kingdom of Christ, there are many things to encourage us to engage in this blessed work with renewed courage, faith and hope. Thus far our missionary work has not been a failure. It has been more productive of results than we perhaps had a right to expect. With the means at our command few other denominations have done more than we in the missionary field. The interest in our missionary work is growing in our churches, and confidence in our operations is gaining ground. More has been given for missions since the panic, and during the hard times, than before, although the value of money has increased. One of the principal causes of our failing to raise more missionary funds is the want of system in develop-

ing the benevolence of the Church, but this is passing away. Missionary societies on the apostolic plan by which all alike, especially our poor people, have an opportunity to do something for the spread of the Gospel, are springing up in various parts of the Church. Missionary festivals are more numerous, and are doing a good work. The spirit of missions is, we believe, penetrating the life of the Church, and it is beginning to be felt more and more, that the time has arrived when the missionary cause should be regarded as among the first and most vital questions which we are called upon to solve. If many things are calculated to dishearten and discourage us at present, we may be assured that if we persevere in patient effort to bring our churches up to the full measure of their responsibility, the future will be more fruitful than the present. Deeply thankful for the kind treatment which he has received whenever he has had occasion to visit the churches, glad to record the help and co-operation of ministerial brethren and others, and to testify to the arduous labors of the Executive Council, the Superintendent respectfully presents to the Synods this imperfect sketch of the missionary work during the last eleven months of the year.

THEODORE APPEL,
Superintendent.

III. REPORT OF TREASURER OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

I beg leave, very respectfully, to submit the subjoined Report of the the moneys received by me, and disbursed for Home Missions, during the year ending September 2nd, 1879.

SYNOD OF THE UNITED STATES.

Received from Classis of Philadelphia,	\$108.17
“ “ “ Tohickon,	289 46
“ “ “ Goshenhoppen,	464 67
“ “ “ East Pennsylvania,	601.21
“ “ “ Lebanon,	1366.92
“ “ “ Lancaster,	560.26
“ “ “ East Susquehanna,	272.77
“ “ “ West “	364.64
Total from the Synod of the United States,	\$4028.10

SYNOD OF THE POTOMAC.

Received from Classis of Zion,	\$445.40
“ “ “ Maryland,	783.13
“ “ “ Mercersburg,	748.66
“ “ “ Virginia,	298.04
Total from the Synod of the Potomac,	\$2275.23

SYNOD OF PITTSBURGH.

Received from Treasurer of Synod,	\$752.59
“ “ Classis of St. Paul,	47.00
“ “ “ Somerset,	22.76
Total from the Synod of Pittsburgh,	\$822.35

MISCELLANEOUS SOURCES.

Received from Classis of San Francisco,.....	\$ 20.00
“ “ Gerhart Legacy, (interest),.....	12 00
“ “ Spangler “	18.75
“ “ Locke “	150.00
	<hr/>
	\$200.75
Balance in Treasury, October 8, 1878,.....	240.35
	<hr/>
Total from all sources,.....	\$7566.78

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid Orders of the Board during year,....	\$7859.37
“ Treasurer of Iowa Classis,.....	79.30
Balance in Treasury,.....	128 11
	<hr/>
	\$7566.78

In addition to the above contributions for missions, I received from sundry sources the sum of \$407.90 for the erection of a chapel in Washington City, D. C.

• REMARKS.

To arrive at the net amount contributed by the church for Home Missions during the year, we must deduct from the sum total received from all sources, \$240.35, (in the Treasury at the beginning of the year,) and it will leave the actual contributions during the synodical year (which in this case, however, embraces about eleven months,) only the sum of \$7826.43 or \$2260.98 less than last year.

Not one of the Classes within the bounds of the three Synods came up in its contributions to the apportionments made by the Synods, and hence the Board is always in debt to the missionaries. Virginia Classis is the only one that came nearly up to the amount asked of her. Lebanon and Mercersburg Classes made considerable increase over last year's contributions, but all the others fell far behind, some not raising one-half the apportionments made upon them.

It is earnestly hoped that in future there will be less, or no occasion to call attention to such painful facts; and that our beloved Zion will render the assistance needed to carry out the injunction of the Head of the Church to preach the gospel to every creature.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

Harrisburg, Sept. 2, 1879.

The undersigned, a committee appointed to audit the account of Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of the Board of Home Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully report, that they have attended to said duty and find the account correct, and a balance of One hundred and twenty-eight dollars and eleven cents (\$128.11) in his hands at this date.

W. H. H. SNYDER,
D. W. GROSS.

Harrisburg, Sept. 2, 1879.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

The Committee on Missions beg leave to offer the following, as their report:

The following documents were placed in their hands for consideration, namely,—the Report of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, the Report

of the Superintendent of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and the Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and also a communication from certain brethren of the Portland-Oregon Classis, assembled at Portland, Oregon, in the capacity of a Missionary Conference.

From these official reports, we take the following summary: that there are now thirty-eight missions under the care of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions—ten more than the previous year. Twenty-four of these missions are in Pennsylvania, two in Virginia, one in Delaware, three in Maryland, one in Washington City, and the rest in Kansas, California, and Oregon. They are all, with two exceptions, reported as being in a prosperous and promising condition. These facts should be for us a cause of gratitude and of encouragement to go forward, at the expense of still greater labor and self-denial.

There has been contributed towards missions, in the past year, the following amounts: Synod of the United States \$4028.10; Synod of the Potomac, including the amount contributed by the Classis of San Francisco, \$2295.23; Synod of Pittsburgh \$822.35; and in interest on invested funds \$180.75—Total \$7,324.43; Disbursed by order of the Board \$7,359.78; paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis \$79.30. Taking into the account the balance in the Treasury at the close of the previous year there remains a balance, at the date of the Treasurer's Report, of \$128.11. The sum of \$407.90 was contributed for the erection of a Chapel in Washington City, D. C.

These figures are not so cheering. The contributions of the Church almost everywhere have fallen below, and in many instances very far below what they should have been. In order properly to sustain the missions already undertaken, and to plant others in the waste places, which are stretching out their hands and crying to us for help, there must be an increase of love for the cause and of liberality in its support on the part of both ministers and people. Instead of progressing here, we are in danger of retrograding. We need but refer to the fact, that the amount of contributions to missions in the year just closed is \$2260.98 less than that of the former year, while very little has been done to ensure the permanent establishment of the mission in Washington City.

To meet the current expenses during the coming year, the Board of Missions will need \$14,000.00. The amount this Synod is asked to assume is \$3,500.00.

The following resolutions are recommended for consideration and adoption:

Resolved, That this sum be apportioned among the different Classes of this Synod, as follows, viz.: Zion's Classis \$1200.00, Maryland Classis \$1200.00, Mercersburg Classis \$1100.00, Virginia Classis \$300.00, North Carolina Classis \$100.00, and San Francisco Classis \$50.00—\$3950.00.

Resolved, That the churches in the bounds of this Synod are hereby urgently requested to lift a collection for the relief of our missionaries, during either the approaching Advent or Epiphany season.

Resolved, That this Synod heartily adopts the suggestions of the Missionary Superintendent, and accordingly requests the Classes, at their next annual meetings, to give special attention to the claims of the missionary cause, urge the importance of systematic benevolence, the further increase of missionary societies in congregations and Sunday-schools, also missionary festivals, and the adoption of such measures as will tend to assure more promptly the payments of the Classical apportionments, so that the wants of our suffering missionaries may be more promptly met, and our missionary operations be more widely extended.

Resolved, That the Washington Mission be heartily commended to the liberal support of our people, and that the Board of Missions be requested to send a missionary into that field as soon as possible.

Resolved, That this Synod again presents to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions the special claims of the Virginia Valley, and earnestly overtures the Board to extend its missionary work in that direction.

Resolved, That the Synod hold a missionary meeting on Monday evening of the present sessions; that the President of the Synodic Board of Missions preside on the occasion; that Revs. J. S. Kieffer and Dr. Theodore Appel, Superintendent of Missions, deliver addresses on Home Missions, and Dr. G. W. Welker on Foreign Missions; and that a collection be lifted for the cause of Foreign Missions, on the occasion.

The paper from the brethren in Oregon states, that they met in Portland at the time fixed for the annual meeting of the Portland-Oregon Classis, but failed to secure a quorum. Hence they resolved themselves into a Missionary Conference to consider the conditions and needs of the cause of missions within their bounds. The results of their deliberations are embodied in a preamble and resolutions consisting of suggestions and petitions to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and which should properly come before it. We therefore offer the following resolution for adoption:

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk transmit the communication from the brethren of the Portland-Oregon Classis to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions for their consideration and action.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. HELLER,
A. SPANGLER,
JOEL T. ROSSITER,
D. M. WHITMORE,
J. G. MARCH,
JACOB SELLERS,
GEORGE DICK,

Committee.

The communion alms on Sunday were devoted to the cause of Home Missions, and amounted to nearly one hundred and fifty dollars.

On Monday evening, the proposed missionary meeting was held, according to the programme in the Report of the Committee on Missions, and a collection was lifted for the cause of Foreign Missions, amounting to \$12.70.

Regarding the apportionments upon the Classes of Zion, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, and San Francisco for the purchasing of a lot and the erection of a Chapel for the Washington City mission, (item 3 of Report of Committee on Minutes of Synod,) the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classes shows what was done in the case.

For some cause or other, the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions failed to issue the appeal, &c., as requested by the Synod of 1878, (and noted in item 4 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod.)

Most of the pastors neglected to take up special collections, as requested by the Synod of Hagerstown, for the payment in full of the promises made by the Synod at York, in 1876, to the cause of missions in the Iowa and Virginia Classes.

The Committee, appointed by the Synod in 1878, to ordain the licentiate Ambrose D. Gring to the work of the Gospel Ministry and also as Missionary to Japan, (as noted in item 9 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Synod,) reported as follows, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The Committee, appointed by your Reverend Body to visit Easton, Pa., for the purpose of ordaining the licentiate Ambrose D. Gring to the Holy Ministry and Missionary to Japan, beg leave to report, That we attended to the duty assigned us, in the First Reformed Church of Easton, Pa., in the presence of the Synod of U. S., on the 25th day of October, A. D., 1878, and Rev. Gring is now in Japan, prosecuting his work.

The expenses incurred by the Committee were \$22.00.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER.

M. KIEFFER,

E. R. ESCHBACH,

Committee.

The Treasurer of Synod was instructed to pay the bill of Travelling Expenses of the Committee of Ordination.

At the election for members of the different Boards, held during the session of Tuesday evening, Rev. G. W. Welker was elected to serve for four years, as a member of the Synodic Board of Missions.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. G. W. Welker,	4 years	October 1, 1883.
" J. O. Miller,	3 "	" 1, 1882.
Elder W. A. Wilt,	3 "	" 1, 1882.
Rev. A. H. Kremer,	2 "	" 1, 1881.
Elder G. S. Griffith,	2 "	" 1, 1881.
Rev. E. R. Eschbach,	1 year,	" 1, 1880.
" E. N. Kremer,	1 "	" 1, 1880.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Treasurer of Synod submitted his annual report to Synod, which was received, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows:

LEWIS H. STEINER, Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac:
DR.

Dec. 10, 1878, To cash received from Louis Markell, former Treas.,	\$186.08
May 26, 1879, To cash received from Mercersburg Classis,	110.00
" 30, " " " " " Virginia " "	30.00
June 12, " " " " " North Carolina " "	30.00
July 7, " " " " " Maryland " "	110.00
Oct. 15, " " " " " Virginia " "	30.00
" 28, " " " " " Zion's " "	110.00
Making,	\$606.08

CONTRA. CR.

Dec. 10, 1878, By cash paid Small & Welsh, for printing Minutes,	\$124.25
" 10, " " " " Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, expenses as Stated Clerk,	15.00
May 26, 1879, By cash paid Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Salary as Stated Clerk,	75.00
Oct. 24, 1878, Balance in Treasury,	391.83
Making,	\$606.08

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Standing Committee on Finance reported, during the session of Tuesday Afternoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Finance report, that they have examined the Treasurer's account, with the vouchers, and found it to be correct, with a balance of \$391.83 in the Treasury. To meet the estimated current expenses of the Synod and part of its liability on loan for the Relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board, the Committee recommend the following assessments:

Mercersburg Classis,	\$160.00
Maryland " "	160.00
Zion's " "	160.00
Virginia " "	40.00
North Carolina " "	40.00
Making,	\$560.00

Respectfully submitted,

A. H. KREMER,
 N. H. SKYLES,
 C. CLEVER,
 W. I. STEWART,
 JOHN MILLER,
 W. H. HAUGH,
Committee.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod, under item 10, reported the deferred assessment to meet one-half the amount assessed by the General Synod upon this Synod for contingent purposes. The Standing Committee on Finance was ordered to make the needed assessment, which is included in their report.

III. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod presented their annual report to Synod, during the session of Tuesday Afternoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

The Board of Trustees of Synod beg leave to report as follows :—Your Board organized by selecting Rev. J. O. Miller as *President* and Rev. E. R. Eschbach as *Secretary*. The Board held several meetings, during the year, but are sorry to say, that our agent succeeded in securing only a small amount of contributions, during the year, so that the deficit of \$818.87 reported a year ago with interest added, after deducting the amount collected by the agent, Rev. M. H. Sangree, leaves a present deficit of \$867.13. We have authorized the agent to prosecute the work of collecting to meet the remaining indebtedness, during the coming year. We trust, that the Synod will commend the agent to the churches, and that such, as have not yet contributed to this cause, will do so, during the ensuing year.

The term of office of Rev. E. R. Eschbach, as trustee will expire on the 1st of January, 1880, and a successor must be chosen by the Synod at this time.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *President*.

At the election held for members of the several Boards of Synod, Elder Louis Markell was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod for five years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder Louis Markell,	.....5 years,	.....January 1, 1885.
" H. Wirt Shriver,	.....4 "	" " 1, 1884.
Rev. Wm. R. H. Deatrich,	.....8 "	" " 1, 1883.
Hon. Lewis H. Steiner, M. D.,	.....2 "	" " 1, 1882.
Rev. J. O. Miller,	.....1 year,	....." " 1, 1881.

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

Nothing took place under this head.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its annual report, which was received, and is as follows:

The Sunday-school Board of the Synod of the Potomac begs leave to offer the following report.

Nothing came before this Board, which claimed special attention, excepting the usual service ordered in behalf of the interest represented by it, and arrangements were made to devote Friday evening of the present sessions of Synod to the Sunday-school interest, and the Board would ask the Synod to make that the order for the evening designated. Three topics have been selected for discussion with two speakers to each topic, to be followed by voluntary speeches. The Treasurer reports, that he has in hand \$40.60, bearing interest.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SANTEE, *Chairman.*

The Synod ordered a Sunday-school service to be held, as suggested by the Sunday-school Board, on Friday evening, and the programme, reported by the Committee on Religious Services, was observed.

Items 4 and 5 of the Committee on Overtures were referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. J. B. Shontz, J. T. Rossiter, and Elder G. S. Griffith. The committee subsequently reported, which was received and amended. As amended and adopted the report is as follows:

We therefore offer the following resolutions for adoption, viz.:

Resolved, That this Synod accedes to the request of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, and agrees to elect a committee of one to assist in selecting Sunday-school Lessons for the ensuing year.

Resolved, That Rev. Wm. Rupp be appointed to represent this Synod in the preparation of the Sunday-school Lessons according to the order of the Church Year.

Respectfully submitted,

J. B. SHONTZ,
JOEL T. ROSSITER,
G. S. GRIFFITH.

Committee.

At the election held for members of the different Boards, Elder G. S. Griffith was re-elected a member of the Board for the term of five years, and Rev. D. W. Ebbert was chosen to fill the vacancy occasioned by the removal of Rev. A. C. Whitmer into the bounds of another Synod.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder G. S. Griffith,	.....5 years,	.....October, 1884
Rev. D. W. Ebbert,	.....4 " .....	....." 1888
" J. W. Santee,	.....3 " .....	....." 1882
" A. R. Kremer,	.....2 " .....	....." 1881
" W. K. Zieber,	.....1 " .....	....." 1880

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 14 the conditional provision that had been made last year by the Synod, for the organization of a new Classis out of the territory of Synod, lying north of the State of California, on the Pacific coast. As ascertained from the Minutes of the San Francisco Classis and of the new Classis organized, such new Classis was organized out of the territory of Synod contained in the State of Oregon and Washington Territory, under the name and title of the *Portland-Oregon Classis*. The new Classis was organized at Portland, Oregon, March 1st, A. D. 1879.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk in regard to the publication of the Minutes of the Sixth Annual Meeting of Synod, and was adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report, that he had two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last Annual Meeting of the Synod printed and bound in pamphlet form, according to instructions, and distributed them agreeably to the rules and regulations of Synod, in the case. The Minutes number three pages more than those of the previous year, and cost in the aggregate about three dollars more, although actually less per page.

They were printed and bound by Messrs Small & Welsh of York, Pa., at a cost of \$124.25, which was punctually paid by the Treasurer of Synod. The work was completed before the end of November—earlier than any previous year—so that the Minutes were ready for distribution within about five weeks after the final adjournment of Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, printed, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

I. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD OF THE
REFORMED CHURCH,

For the eleven months ending August 1st, 1879.

To the Synods of the United States, Pittsburgh, and the Potomac, the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully submits the following report:

The Board held three regular meetings during the eleven months covered by this report, at each of which, especially at the last meeting, close attention was given to the interests entrusted to their care. It is a source of regret, that they cannot present a more flattering report than the present must necessarily be; though perhaps it is more flattering than could have been expected, when all the circumstances in the case are taken into consideration.

The Book Department, we regret to say, has met with a more than usual falling off in its business, than during any year since the panic commenced, and in this department, our chief deficiency during the period covered by this report, exists. To what particular cause this is to be traced, it may be difficult exactly to determine. Those entrusted with its management have not been relax in their efforts to make it a complete success. To what extent the patronage of the Church has been withheld, is best known to those, if there be any such, who have bestowed their patronage elsewhere. Certain it is, they have not done so, because they obtained better terms. It is to be remembered, however, that the general experience of the Book Trade pronounces the depression in business during the past year, to have been more severe, than it has been during any year since the commencement of the panic. The Book trade is one of the first to feel such depression, and one of the last to recover from it. The general impression, moreover, is, that an encouraging revival of business in the Book Department will be experienced during the incoming fall, in which the Board has reason to hope its business will share.

In the general periodical department, there has been, on the whole, some improvement, on the previous year. The receipts on account of some of the periodicals have been increased, whilst the falling off on any of them with a single exception, is very slight. In those cases, however, where there has been a falling off, there has been a corresponding addition to the outstanding dues.

There has been a slight increase in the number of subscribers to the "Messenger," over that reported last year. In view of the large number of new subscribers obtained by the efforts of a special agency, it was naturally expected, that the increase would be larger. So many, however, new subscribers discontinue at the end of the first or second year; and it is necessary constantly to purge the subscription list of non-paying subscribers, that it required constant effort to keep the list at the present standard; and accordingly, large as the additions have been, they have but little exceeded the number of names stricken from the list. A decrease of one hundred and thirty-seven subscribers, has occurred in the "Guardian" list, whilst a large addition has been made to the number of "Lesson Papers" printed. The "Review" shows an increase of seventeen, and the monthly "Child's Treasury," of thirty seven. The semi-monthly has lost over twelve hundred subscribers. No special reason can be assigned for this, as a continued decrease has been going forward for several years.

To meet a want, which has been deeply felt for some time in the Church, and which could not longer be disregarded, without serious detriment to

its interests, the Board felt constrained to commence the publication of a small weekly sheet for Infant Classes in Sunday-schools. They have named it, "Sunshine," and it has met with a favorable reception thus far, and the indications are that the receipts during the first year will be sufficient to cover the actual expenses incurred.

The Board again appointed a special committee from its own number, in which each of the three Synods was represented, to examine carefully into the condition of the Establishment. They spent the greater part of two days in their specific work. Their report is here incorporated, as the most accurate account that can be given of the result reached :

PHILADELPHIA, August 20th, 1879.

To the Reformed Church Publication Board :

Your committee appointed at the last meeting, to take an account of stock in store, and ascertain the financial condition of the Board, beg leave to report :

We have carefully gone over the list of books and goods in the Store, and examined into our Liabilities and Assets, with the following result. We find a considerable amount of stock on hand, coming down from former years, that is not saleable, and hence comparatively worthless. This we estimated at only half its cost value, and in a few instances, threw it out altogether. Other of the stock we threw off one fourth, one fifth, and on all of it in sum total, one tenth of its returned value. Our Book Agent, Mr. Taylor, was with us, and coincided with our judgment. We found a large number of "Reviews" and "Guardians," of former years still on hand. These we reduced one half from the estimate put on them last year, and still it is doubtful whether they can ever be sold for their present estimated value. We also found some books in sheets, that are worth but little, and hence estimated them at a low rate. It is the opinion of your committee, that greater care should be exercised in printing a less number of extra periodicals, especially of the "Review" and "Guardian," which have accumulated in such large numbers on our hands.

We find due on Book accounts over six thousand dollars ; on subscriptions due from present subscribers to our periodicals, over thirteen thousand dollars, and due from old accounts of discontinued subscribers, nearly twelve thousand dollars, for about seventeen hundred dollars of which notes and due bills have been given. Thus it will be seen, that the total amount due the Board, on book account and subscriptions to periodicals, amounts to the sum of *over twenty-five thousand dollars*. This is a fearful loss in interest ; but the worst of it is, that at least one third of this vast amount, or eight thousand dollars of it, had to be thrown out as not collectable. More care, we think, should be exercised in trusting those, not known to be good, and still more earnest efforts made to collect up outstanding claims. In saying all this, we have no design of reflecting upon the business capacity of our Superintendent or Book Agent. We believe they are both doing the very best they can for the interest of the Establishment. The fault is rather with our ministers and people, who buy books and subscribe for periodicals and do not pay for them. But the experience of the past should teach us to trust less, and be wider awake to our pecuniary interests.

We are sorry to say, that our liabilities have increased during the last eleven months, about \$2,500., whilst our assets have decreased about \$4,800. Of course, this is owing in part to the reductions made on stock on hand, and the throwing out of what are believed to be worthless

accounts. It will be remembered, also, that, when four years ago, the Synod elected a new Editor-in-chief, it was hoped, that the increased income to the establishment would meet the expenses of his salary, and that this expectation has been disappointed, so that a large part of our increased liabilities is owing to the demand made upon us to pay the salary of additional force on the "Messenger." Still, the fact stares us in the face, that we are losing money largely, and, that, unless our expenses can be brought nearer within our income, our existence as a Board will be only a matter of a few years. It is not within the province of the committee, as such, to suggest a remedy. We leave that to the united wisdom of the Board, and to the Synods represented in it. The total liabilities and assets, together with his detailed statement, will be found in the Superintendent's report.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. LOVE.

G. S. GRIFFITH.

To provide as far as in their power, for a decrease of expenditures, the Board has made a general reduction on all the salaries of those employees in its service. As a means of further relieving the Board from financial pressure, it respectfully overtures the Synods represented in the Board, to recommend to the Classes and congregations within their bounds, to provide means for printing and distributing religious literature gratuitously, or at such reduced rates, as the Board may deem best to weak charges, Mission congregations, and other benevolent associations. Should this overture be granted, it further asks, that the Synod of the United States appoint a committee to prepare the manuscript for a tract on the "Duty and Privilege of giving to the support of the Benevolent Operations of the Church ;"

That the Synod of the Potomac appoint a committee to prepare a tract on the "Duty of and Benefit to Individuals and Families Subscribing for and Reading our Church Periodicals."

That the Synod of Pittsburgh appoint a committee to prepare the manuscript for a tract on the "Duty and Advantages of full Church Membership ;" each tract to contain not more than eight pages, and that the cost of printing them be paid out of the the fund raised for the free circulation of religious literature, and that all congregations within the bounds of the three Synods, which contribute to this fund, shall be gratuitously supplied with said tracts for distribution in their families.

With a view to extend the circulation of the "Guardian" and "Child's Treasury," the Board has determined upon a reduction of the price of these periodicals, to go into effect with the opening of the incoming year. As the income in the semi-monthly Child's Treasury in consequence of the falling off of its subscription list, is insufficient to cover the additional expenses incurred through it, the Board will discontinue its issue after the present year.

The Board appointed a committee to prepare a new price list of books published by it. and of all books on hand, putting such as are not saleable at greatly reduced rates. This committee is to report at the next meeting of the Board to be held in December next, and the new price list is to go into effect with the opening of the incoming year.

The time of service of G. S. Griffith and B. Wolff, Jr., as members of the Board will terminate with the present year. It will, therefore,

devolve upon the Synods they respectively represent, to fill the vacancies in the Board, which will thus occur.

Respectfully submitted in behalf of the Board,

D. W. GROSS, *President.*

SAML. R. FISHER, *Secretary.*

Philadelphia, August 29, 1879.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The Standing Committee on Publication reported during the session of Friday Afternoon. The Report was received and engaged the attention of the Synod during the sessions of Friday Afternoon, Saturday Forenoon, and Saturday Afternoon. The Report was amended and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Publication respectfully beg leave to report:—Your Committee have bestowed careful attention and study upon the several documents placed in their hands. The subject matter contained therein was earnestly considered and discussed, and as the result of their deliberations, they would recommend to Synod the adoption of the following resolutions.

Resolved, That this Synod most respectfully declines concurring in the action of the Synod of the U. S., proposing changes in the editorial management of the *Messenger*.

Resolved, That in the judgment of this Synod the deficit, in view of which a change in the present editorial management is sought to be accomplished, is not to be remedied by such method, but rather by increased liberality in maintaining the present management, as it is.

Resolved, That the efficient measures inaugurated by the Board, at its late meeting, in the way of reduction of salaries, lessening of cost in the publications and material, and reduction of prices, give good promise that the end of the current year will show a favorable balance in its business operations.

Resolved, That this Synod calls upon the Classes and ministers and membership within her bounds, to put forth a decided and most vigorous effort to increase the circulation of our periodicals and the volume of the business of the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

S. N. CALLENDER,

JNO. G. NOSS,

W. AUG. GRING,

W. H. HERBERT,

JOHN M. HOFFMAN,

F. M. MCKEEHAN,

Committee.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 17, the continuance of the Committee to prepare and publish, conjointly with a similar committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," *with music.*

The Committee presented the following report, which was received and adopted, and the Committee was continued. The report is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Your Committee on the selection of music for the New Hymn Book respectfully report, that they have selected tunes for all the hymns from the beginning of the Book to Trinity Sunday, with the exception of some thirty; and also report, that the Committee of the Synod of the United States has fully completed the selections for the remaining part of the Book. Very little more, therefore, is now required to place the work in the hands of the printer.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. HIGBEE,
J. B. KERSCHNER.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 20th, 1879.

P. S.—We submit herewith the following expenses.

E. E. Higbee for one trip to Frederick,.....	\$ 5.40
E. E. Higbee " " " " Lancaster,.....	7.20
	<hr/>
	\$12.60
J. B. Kerschner for one trip to Frederick,.....	\$ 5.40
J. B. Kerschner " " " " Lancaster,.....	7.20
	<hr/>
	\$12.60

The Treasurer was, on motion, instructed to pay the foregoing bills.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 16, that agreeably to the Charter of the Publication Board of the Reformed Church in the United States, it is rendered necessary for the Synod of the Potomac, at its present sessions, to elect a member of said Board for four years, in the place of Elder G. S. Griffith, whose term of service is about to expire. At the election held for members of the several Boards, Elder G. S. Griffith was re-elected to serve for the period of four years

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder Goldsboro S. Griffith,.....	4 years,.....	1883
" Adam B. Wingerd,.....	3 "	1882

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the session of Tuesday Afternoon, the Standing Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received, amended, and adopted. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two hundred and fifty tickets of these nominations printed for the use of the Synod,

and the election was made the order of the day for Tuesday Evening's session. At the time designated, the election took place. Revs. W. F. Colliflower, S. S. Miller, C. G. Fisher, and I. M. Motter were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of the Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Missions, Trustees of Synod, Sunday-schools, Publication, Peace Commissioners, and Regents of Mercersburg College.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 18, the post-ponement, until the present annual meeting, of the election of Commissioners to the Peace Convention about to assemble in Harrisburg, Pa.

This item and item 6 in the Report of the Standing Committee on Overtures were referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, G. H. Martin, F. F. Bahner, and elders H. W. Shriver and M. Zimmerman. During the session of Tuesday Afternoon, this committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit :

The Committee to whom was referred the subject of the Peace Commission to convene in Harrisburg, Pa., November 26th, 1879, and the appointment of commissioners to the same from this body, would respectfully report, that we deem it unnecessary for this Synod, at this time, to give any lengthy deliverance on the subject matter itself, after the discussion had a year ago at Hagerstown; except, to say, that we acknowledge the good effects already of this contemplated Peace Commission upon the Church; and, that we still favor this movement that looks in the interest of the peace of the Church.

We recommend, that the Synod do now proceed to the selection of four commissioners or delegates, two ministerial, and two lay—with their alternates, as designated by the General Synod, to represent this Synod in said Commission.

It is our opinion, that these delegates or commissioners should be selected from the majority and minority of this Synod, in the following ratio, namely: that the majority shall have one ministerial and two lay delegates or commissioners, with alternates; and that the minority shall have one ministerial delegate or commissioner, and his alternate. And for this purpose, we nominate the following, from whom the Synod shall select who shall be *primarii*, and who *secundi*: namely from the majority as ministerial delegate or commissioner—Rev. Samuel N. Callender and Rev. Elnathan E. Higbee; and from the minority, as ministerial delegate or commissioner—Rev. George W. Welker and Rev. George W. Glessner. Majority lay delegates, Elders Henry Wirt, Lewis H. Steiner, J. Taylor Motter, and John P. Reed.

In balloting, each member of the Synod shall vote for two ministers and two elders. And the one minister of the majority and the one minister of the minority having the highest number of votes shall be the *primarii*, and the others the *secundi*. And the two elders having the highest number of votes shall, in like manner, be the *primarii*, and the others the *secundi*.

We would further recommend, that in view of the important work committed to said Commission, this Synod advise and hereby does direct all its congregations and members to offer special prayer to the Great Head of the Church, on their behalf, when they shall be assembled in convention—such prayer to be made at the regular Lord's Day services and at the weekly meetings for prayer.

And further, we agree with the other Synods in the full conviction, that in order to carry out the spirit of the General Synod, it is necessary that the conclusions reached by the Peace Commission should be unanimous; and that nothing short of this, as coming from said Commission, will aid us in securing a real peace.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER,
G. H. MARTIN,
F. F. BAHNER,
H. WIRT SHRYVER,
MICHAEL ZIMMERMAN,
Committee.

Accordingly, at the election for members of the several Boards of Synod, an election for Delegates or Commissioners to the Peace Convention to convene in Harrisburg, Pa., November 26th, A. D. 1879, was held, with the following result, to wit: Rev. Samuel N. Callender, D. D., Rev. Geo. Wm. Welker, D. D., and Elders Henry Wirt and Hon. Lewis H. Steiner, M. D., *Primarii*; and Rev. Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., George W. Glesner, D. D., and Elders J. Taylor Motter, and John P. Reed, Esq., *Secundi*.

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College presented their annual report to Synod, which was received, and then with item 3 of the Report of the Committee on Overtures was referred to a special committee, composed of Revs. W. Rupp, J. A. Hoffheins, C. G. Fisher, and Elders J. M. Hoffman and L. Markell. The report is as follows:

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

DEAR BRETHREN:—The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, in submitting this their first report for your consideration, deem it proper to give a brief history of the College, in connection with a detailed statement of its present financial condition.

The College was chartered A. D. 1865. The property was purchased for six thousand and five hundred dollars (\$6,500), of which amount Mercersburg Classis took upon itself to furnish three thousand and five hundred dollars (\$3,500), leaving the balance for the Corporation to secure as best it could. To put the buildings in proper repair and to secure the necessary furniture for the rooms required in a short time an additional outlay of at least five thousand dollars (\$5,000), making the expense at the start eleven thousand and five hundred dollars (\$11,500).

The earnings of the School were insufficient to meet this expense, and the Institution therefore from the outset had to depend upon the charitable donations of the Church. At different times agents were sent into the field, meeting with more or less success; but at no time were the collections sufficient to diminish to any extent the original indebtedness. Besides this, the three thousand and five hundred dollars (\$3,500) which Mercersburg Classis had obligated itself to furnish came in by small dribs, and the whole amount has not yet been fully met.

In consequence of all this, the College for the first five or six years of its existence, although under the able management of Dr. Thomas G. Apple, and exercising the utmost economy, could not extricate itself from its burden of debt. Indeed, when the successor of Dr. Apple entered upon his work, the debt for current expenses including that for some additional furniture had reached the sum of five thousand and six hundred dollars (\$5,600), while the debt for the original purchase of property had been decreased only four thousand dollars (\$4,000), leaving the Institution involved to the amount of thirteen thousand and one hundred dollars (\$13,100).

Notwithstanding this, the College was able to go on, paying its Professors and the interest of its debt out of its own earnings and the charitable gifts of its friends. In reality for the past seven years the debt has been kept down very near to its original proportion, lessened rather than increased, but only by means of great labor and sacrifice. In the meantime also every possible effort has been made to secure help; but the donations from the Church were exceedingly small, not sufficient indeed to keep one Professor in the College. It may be said that for the past seven years the College has been left to depend to a very large extent upon what it could secure from its students, and upon the willingness of its Professors to work while their salaries were exceedingly small. What added still more to the difficulties was that this period was one of great and general financial depression, diminishing the number of students as well as the charitable donations of friends.

The Board of Regents, however feel gratified that they can present the following detailed statement of the financial condition of the Institution, putting the real assets at their very lowest estimate, and including all debts up to September 18, 1879.

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE, SEPTEMBER 18, 1879.

DR.	CR.
To King Mortgage,.....\$3,000 00	By Purchased Property,....\$6,500.00
“ Cook Judgment Note,.... 2,000.00	“ Leased Property,.....10,000.00
“ E. E. Higbee,..... 2,879.00	“ Subscription Notes,.....11,000.00
“ Chambersburg Bank,.... 1,327.00	“ Obligations of Students, 1,800.00
“ J. B. Kerschner,..... 850.00	“ Library,..... 500.00
“ Geo. F. Mull,..... 302.00	“ Apparatus,..... 400.00
“ J. H. Kershner,..... 240.00	
“ Coal Bill,..... 400.00	
“ H. Hause,..... 600.00	
“ Sundries,..... 500.00	
<hr/>	<hr/>
\$12,098.00	\$30,200 00
Assets over Liabilities,.....	\$18,102.00

From this statement it can be seen that the debt of the College in 1879 is less than it was some seven years ago by a little over one thousand dollars (\$1,002) and that over four thousand dollars of it have been shifted from outside parties to the Professors of the College.

The literary work accomplished by the College during this short period now passed under review is probably well known to the Church. The Institution has graduated fifty-nine students, of which number twenty-seven have studied for the holy ministry. But very many students, before completing their full course, left for other Colleges, so that these statistics very inadequately represent the work which has been done. The Faculty of the College has been competent. The first President is now President of Franklin and Marshall College. The first Professor is now Professor in the same College. Another of its early Professors has become Superintendent of Schools in Minnesota, and still another Professor has very recently become assistant Professor of Chemistry in Cornell University. All this encourages the Board of Regents in the conviction that the labor and sacrifice gone through have not been for naught, and that, if the school must now close, it has accomplished sufficient to justify the efforts which have been made to sustain it.

It was felt by very many that the work of the College was too large and important to remain under charge of a single Classis; and in answer to an overture from Mercersburg Classis, simply expressing its willingness to surrender the College to the Synod of the Potomac, that Synod last year took the Institution under its care without a dissenting voice, and requested the Board of Regents to send an agent into this larger field. The Board found itself unable to secure a suitable agent; but by letters, and by solicitations of the President of the College, visiting the Church in person as time would allow him, it endeavored faithfully to awaken an interest in the Synod in behalf of the College, and to secure the financial aid so much needed. Hardly anything, however, was accomplished. On the contrary the sad conviction was forced upon those making the effort, that, notwithstanding the unanimous action of the Synod, there was but little disposition upon the part of the ministers of the Synod to sustain or make permanent the work at Mercersburg, either because it was thought that no such work was in reality needed by the Church, or, if needed, it was not under proper management to prove itself successful. Under this discouragement, together with the pressing demands of creditors who had already waited long and patiently, the year passed on through anxieties and gloom, affecting students and Professors and Regents, and still rendering everything more hopeless. Having looked in vain for help in every direction far and near, and receiving nothing adequate, the only alternative left seemed to be to suspend the School for a time at least, and pay the debt by collecting the dues of the College and such donations as could be secured, so that in case of resumption the Synod might be free and without burden.

The new Collegiate year upon which the College has now entered, as might be expected, started with still greater disadvantages than the preceding, the creditors becoming more anxious, the indebtedness increasing, and the opposition to the school showing itself more bold and outspoken. The filicitous satirical verse of Horace was sadly verified

"Quanto perditior quisque est, tanto acrius urget."

While last year the roll of students numbered fifty-six, this year it started with only twenty-six, with but little likelihood that it will be much increased during the session. The President had confidently expected a much larger accession, but found to his great surprise that quite a large number of the students already in attendance had been written to and urged to go elsewhere, and that the field had been canvassed in the interest of another Institution. This state of things renders it absolutely impossible for the College to go on without endowment from the Synod.

The small amount of twenty-five thousand dollars, including in this the debt, would be in all probability amply sufficient, when added to that already secured, and to that which is expected from outstanding legacies.

The Faculty of the College seeing the necessities of the case, and wishing to give to the Synod the utmost freedom of re-organizing the Institution, have tendered their resignations to the Board, which resignations have been accepted, hoping that by suspending at the close of the present session, and thus avoiding any increase of debt, the way may be opened for an agent to go into the field and make one last and strong effort to save the Institution and make possible its early resumption of work in some form if the Synod shall be so disposed.

In concluding this report, your Board would recommend to the Synod the following action :

1. That the attention of the Synod be called to the fact that the terms of office of the following members of the Board of Regents have expired, viz: Elders A. B. Wingerd, A. R. Schnebly and L. Markell, and that it will be necessary for the Synod to fill these vacancies by election.

2. That the Synod be requested to commit the within report to a special Committee with instructions to report some definite action in the case at as early an hour as possible, for the consideration of this Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. HIGBEE,

by request of the Board.

REPORT OF SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The special committee to whom the interests of Mercersburg College had been referred for consideration, presented their report to Synod during the session of Monday Forenoon, which was received, and held under consideration during the following three sessions of Synod. The request of the Alumni Association of Mercersburg College for one hour of Synod's time, in which to present the claims and interests of the college before Synod was granted and so occupied. The report of the special committee was so amended as to be almost entirely changed. The report, as amended and adopted, is as follows :

To the Synod of the Potomac :

Your Committee on Mercersburg College, would respectfully offer the following as their report.

From the Report of the Board of Regents we learn, that the Institution is indebted to the amount of \$12,098. The value of the assets, including leased property, is said to be \$30 200.00. How much of this may be available for the liquidation of the indebtedness, the committee is unable to determine. We learn further, that, in consequence of the embarrassed financial condition of the Institution, all the Professors have tendered their resignations, and that those have been accepted by the Board of Regents, - thus suspending the work of the college at the close of the present session, which commenced with the small number of twenty-six students. The Board also states that the term of office of three of the members expires, and that their places will have to be filled by election.

In view of these facts, the committee would respectfully recommend the following action :

Resolved, That the vacancies occurring in the Board of Regents be filled at this session of Synod.

Resolved, That the Board of Regents be directed to employ an agent to canvass the territory of this Synod for the purpose of raising funds for the immediate necessities of said College, and also for the further purpose of raising Twenty Thousand Dollars for the permanent endowment of the College, and to secure a Faculty such as may be necessary to conduct the Institution with the least possible expense.

Resolved, That the pastors and consistories in the bounds of this Synod be requested to co-operate with the agent thus sent out, and also with the Board of Regents to carry out these instructions and save the Institution, and so secure the establishment of Mercersburg College for the educational work of this Synod, if possible.

Resolved, That the Board of Regents, if forthcoming relief cannot be thus obtained, in the coming year, be empowered to dispose of such property, as can be dispensed with to the least detriment to the operations of the College, and so reduce its work, as to bring the expenses within its income.

Resolved, That the Board of Education of the Synod be directed to request the Board of Regents to discontinue the Post-Graduate Department or Course of Study, in said College.

Resolved, That this Synod hereby requests the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College to secure such change in the Charter of the College as shall put the election of the members of the Board necessarily in the hands of the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. RUPP,
J. A. HOFFHEINS,
CHAS. G. FISHER,
LOUIS MARKELL,
J. M. HOFFMAN,
Committee.

The following resolution was subsequently moved and adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That this Synod hereby expresses its high appreciation of the eminent ability, faithfulness, and devotion to the work of Christian education in the Reformed Church performed by the Rev. Dr. Higbee, and that it invokes God's blessing to rest upon him in the future, and also upon those who are associated with him in his labors in Mercersburg College.

At the election held for members of the different Boards of Synod, Andrew R. Schnebly, Louis Markell, and E. J. Bonebrake, Esq., were elected members of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College for the term of three years. Rev. Wm. A. Gring was also chosen a member of the Board of Regents for one year, to fill the unexpired term of Rev. J. A. Peters, whose resignation the Synod had accepted.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Andrew R. Schnebly,	3 years,	October, 1882
Louis Markell,	3 "	" 1882
E. J. Bonebrake, Esq.,	3 "	" 1882
Rev. E. E. Higbee, D. D.,	2 "	" 1881
" J. S. Kieffer,	2 "	" 1881
" D. M. Whitmore,	2 "	" 1881
" Wm. A. Gring,	1 "	" 1880
John L. Reifsnnyder,	1 "	" 1880
William Heyser,	1 "	" 1880

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 9, reported a statement of the condition and wants of Bethany Orphans' Home, at Womelsdorf, Pa. The item was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. A. C. Geary, I. M. Motter, and Elder F. M. McKeehan. This committee, during the last session of Synod, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BETHANY ORPHAN HOME.

Your committee to whom was referred the "Report of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphan Home," respectfully reports as follows:

The Board states that the Home has now been in existence for a period of fifteen years, and maintained 307 orphans, and received about \$150,-000.00 from the Church and other sources toward its support.

During the past year, the Board received from the Church and State \$3,668 54—"the smallest amount received, during any year of its history, and about \$800.00 less than its expenditures;" apart from produce yielded by the farm belonging to the Home. Fifty-five orphans were at the Home during the year. The general health of its inmates has been good. There was but one death. Several orphans were confirmed on last Good Friday; and 106 since the organization of the congregation ten years ago by the present Superintendent, Rev. D. B. Albright.

A plan to liquidate the remaining indebtedness on the Home farm has been adopted, and is recommended by the Board, namely, that forty persons should contribute \$100.00 a piece. Four names have already been secured. In view of the foregoing statement, we offer the following resolutions for adoption, to wit:

Resolved, That the sacred cause of the orphans be and hereby is renewedly commended to the attention and liberality of the churches within our bounds.

Resolved, That our congregations and Sunday-schools be advised to devote at least their Christmas alms to this cause.

Resolved, That the plan of forty persons contributing \$100.00 each for the purpose of liquidating the indebtedness on the Home farm be earnestly commended to the churches and members within our bounds.

Respectfully submitted,

A. C. GEARY,
I. M. MOTTER,
F. M. MCKEEHAN,

Committee.

LEGACY OF PHILIP BRECHBILL.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 8, reported a communication from the consistory of the Reformed Church at Churchtown, Cumberland County, Pa., in which reference is made to the legacy of Philip Brechbill, praying the Synod to accept the bequest and carry into execution the desire and will of the testator.

The following resolutions were adopted in regard to this matter:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of Synod be empowered and directed to receive of and from Henry E. Brechbill, executor of the last will and testament of Philip Brechbill, deceased, the legacy bequeathed to the Synod, and in the name, place, and stead of the Synod sign, seal, and deliver, and acknowledge a release to the said Henry E. Brechbill, executor as aforesaid, for the said sum.

Resolved, That the Trustees of Synod take charge of said bequest or legacy, and apply the same as directed by the testator.

The authorities of the Maryland Institution for the Deaf and Dumb, located at Frederick City, kindly extended an invitation to the Synod to visit said Institution. The invitation was accepted, and, at 4 o'clock on Monday afternoon, the Synod in a body made the visit.

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF MINISTERS AND WIDOWS OF
MINISTERS.

The Society for the relief of disabled ministers and the widows of deceased ministers of the Reformed Church in the United States, through its Treasurer, submitted a statement, with a request that it be entered upon the Minutes of Synod, which was accordingly ordered to be done, to wit:

During the past year the Society made appropriations to the amount of \$765.00, among three disabled ministers and fifteen widows. The balance in the Treasury at present is \$447.45.

During the past year, a member of our Church in Western Pennsylvania left to the Society a legacy of \$1,000.00—an example worthy of commendation.

The Society hopes, that it will continue to receive the fostering care of the Synod, and suggests that, as heretofore, it requests all the churches under its care to take up, at least, one collection for the Society, during the year; and further, that it recommend that efforts be made in the churches to increase the principal of the Society by legacies, or other methods so that larger appropriations may be made to those entitled to the help of the Society.

THEODORE APPEL, *Treasurer*.

The interests of the Society were commended to the churches under the care of the Synod.

An assessment of twenty-five cents per member was made to remunerate the sexton and meet incidental expenses. Revs. W. R. H. Deatrich, A. Shulenberger, and Elder D. Biser were appointed the committee to collect said assessment. At a subsequent session, the committee reported, as follows, which was received and adopted :

Your committee to collect twenty-five cents from each member of Synod begs leave to report, that the duty has been attended to, and the sum of \$31.25 collected and paid over to the *Pastor loci*.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. R. H. DEATRICH,
A. SHULENBERGER,
DANIEL BISER,
Committee.

On Saturday morning, a committee was appointed on leave of absence, consisting of Revs. J. H. Sykes, H. Wissler, and Elder S. B. Snively. The committee reported as follows, which was received and adopted :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

Your committee on leave of absence would respectfully report, that quite a number of applications for leave of absence were received ; and, after carefully considering each case, as each appeared, they granted leave of absence to the following persons :

Ministers.—J. M. Mickley, H. Tallhelm, R. R. Smith, D. N. Dittmar, H. F. Long, D. W. Ebbert, A. R. Kremer, A. Shulenberger, Dr. Glessner, A. G. Dole, and *Elders* J. Hoover, M. L. Emig, A. Herberlig, H. Wirt, E. Williard, E. Krone, A. D. Myers, A. H. Beitler, J. F. Crawn, E. Roler, J. L. Rohrbach, J. M. Hoffman, A. Koons, and J. Welshans.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN H. SYKES,
HENRY WISSLER,
SAM'L. B. SNIVELY,
Committee.

ARTICLE XXII.

MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology presents the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

Your Committee on Ministerial Necrology, in making their report, desire to congratulate the Synod upon the fact, that, during the last Synodical year, (as also in the preceding one,) there has been but one death in the ranks of the ministry of Synod. Surely there is something in this exemption from loss by death to be profoundly thankful for, and of which it is our bounden duty to take special note

The Rev. Nicholas E. Gilds, in the twenty-ninth year of his ordination, died suddenly at his home in Mechanicstown, Md., on the evening of the 5th of March, as he was preparing to go to his bed for the night,

from a disease of the heart, of the incurable nature of which he was aware, but had made known only to a few of his friends. Laying aside his garments, and putting off his mortal flesh, as it were in one act, he rests from his labors, and, life's fitful fever over, he sleeps well.

At the time of his death, he was in the sixtieth year of his age, having been born April 17th, A. D. 1819. He became a candidate for the ministry in Chambersburg, during the pastorate of Rev. H. L. Rice, of sainted memory, and for a short time pursued his studies at Marshall College, Mercersburg, Pa., but for the most part made his preparation for the Holy Ministry in a private way. He was licensed by the Virginia Classis in 1850, and in the following year, was ordained and installed as Pastor at Carrollton, Ohio, where he exercised his ministry for the space of three years. From thence he removed to Reimersburg, Clarion County, Pa., and remained there as Pastor of the charge for three years. Thence he was called to the pastorate of the St. Clairsville Charge, Bedford County, Pa., and continued his labors for nine years. From St. Clairsville he removed to Taneytown, Md., where he lived as Pastor of the Charge for two years, going thence to Mechanicstown, in what is supposed to be his native County (Frederick), where he prosecuted his ministerial work for nine years more—up to within two or three years of the time of his decease.

Doubtless these twenty-six years of preaching and pastoral work have been owned of the Lord and crowned with His benediction, "Well done, good and faithful servant, enter into the joy of thy Lord."

The testimony of one who knew him well is this—"He was a good minister and neighbor, true to the golden rule, careful of the good name of his ministerial brethren, and never did he detract from them any merit or reputation, they may have succeeded in winning. He was true to his Church, her doctrines, customs, and traditions, and obedient to her authority."

In conclusion, your committee desire to say, that it is hardly probable, that the Synodical year, upon which we have now entered, will be distinguished by so large an exemption from death among our ministry. Indeed, this very fact, to wit, the smallest possible death rate for two consecutive years, renders it highly probable, that more than one minister will pass away from the ministry of this Synod, during the current year. If so, in the good Providence of our Lord, may it be in the midst of full and successful work, that each one, as he goes may be enabled joyfully to say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith: henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day."

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. LEWIS STALEY, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XXIII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted:

VOTE OF THANKS.

Resolved, That the most cordial thanks of this Synod be and hereby are returned to the Pastor, Consistory, and members of the First or

Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick City for the use of their church, in which to hold the present sessions of Synod, and for their kind entertainment and liberal hospitality extended to us, during our present sojourn amongst them.

Resolved, That the *Pastor loci* be requested to read the foregoing resolution from his pulpit, at his next Lord's Day service, and have it published in the daily paper of Frederick.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to return the thanks of the Synod to the management of the Pennsylvania, and Baltimore and Ohio Railroads for kindness in permitting the members of Synod to pass over their respective roads, at reduced rates of fare.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and the following members of Synod were found absent without permission: Revs. J. Ault, A. Wanner, W. H. Herbert, E. G. Williams, F. S. Lindaman, and Elders Jacob G. March, Jacob Rickard, Henry Dietz, and George W. Hench of *Zion's Classis*; Elder Peter Zimmerman of *Maryland Classis*; Elder Henry Omwake of *Mercersburg Classis*; and Revs. H. St. J. Rinker, S. L. Whitmore, L. M. Hensell, and Elder John W. Yakey of *Virginia Classis*.

The minutes were then finally read and approved, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIV.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted, during the session of Thursday afternoon, to wit:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be in *General Convention*.

Resolved, That when we adjourn finally, it be to meet again in annual sessions in the Reformed Church of Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Virginia, on Wednesday Evening, October 13th, A. D. 1880, at 7 o'clock.

The Synod adjourned finally on Wednesday afternoon, October 29th, at 12½ o'clock, with chanting the Gloria in Excelsis, repeating the Apostles' Creed, joining in the Lord's Prayer, singing the doxology, and benediction by the President.

J. W. SANTEE, *President*.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Official copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *STATED CLERK*.

STATISTICAL REPORTS.

Ministers.	No. of Congregants.	Charges.	Members.		Baptisms.		Communicants.	Discontinued.	Excommunicated.	Deaths.	Sunday-school.		Boys.	Students for Missions.	Contributions.		Post-Office Address.	
			Members.	Unconnected.	Infants.	Adults.					Benevolent Purpose.	Congregation Purpose.						
1. CLASSES OF ZION.																		
Jacob Sechler,.....	4	Manheim,.....	460	170	24	22	440	2	...	4	8	200	...	\$ 175.00	...	...	Hanover, Pa.
Daniel Riegel,.....	2	Dillsburg,.....	230	...	11	18	197	2	...	14	2	...	...	27.00	...	...	Dillsburg, Pa.
Jacob Ziegler,.....	1	Without Charge,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	York, Pa.
Jacob O. Miller, D. D.,.....	1	Trinity Church, York,.....	380	300	28	17	8 350	6	...	10	2	450	...	302.00	\$ 350.00	...	York, Pa.	
Daniel Gring,.....	4	Shrewsbury,.....	440	240	36	2 30	391	2	...	15	6	200	1	102.00	330 00	...	Shrewsbury, Pa.	
Wm. K. Zieber, D. D.,.....	1	Hanover,.....	330	300	18	...	275	1	...	6	1	250	1	525.00	1350 00	...	Hanover, Pa.	
John R. H. Deatrich,.....	4	Christ's Church,.....	1003	565	57	18	6 925	9	...	16	4	360	...	130.00	1750.00	...	Littletown, Pa.	
Wm. R. H. Deatrich,.....	2	Mechanicsburg,.....	310	171	23	2 11	2 304	2	...	16	2	236	...	121.00	1175.00	...	Mechanicsburg, Pa.	
Jacob D. Zehring,.....	5	Emanuel's,.....	957	400	40	8 63	8 859	4	...	80	9	400	...	175.00	800.00	...	Codorus, Pa.	
Jacobhart R. Smith,.....	6	Trinity,.....	272	198	53	12	1 227	...	...	13	7	209	...	29.45	10.00	...	York, Pa.
Ruben Wanner,.....	3	York Springs,.....	275	190	15	...	2 21	2	...	12	8	240	1	90.00	470 00	...	York, Pa.	
Aaron Spangler,.....	1	Zion's Church, York,.....	440	200	25	...	9 225	6	...	11	1	110	1	129.90	900.00	...	York, Pa.	
Arnold S. Lindaman,.....	4	Zion's,.....	380	265	23	2 9	8 330	3	...	11	6	200	1	139.75	1000.00	...	Blain, Pa.	
Freuben Raubauer,.....	4	Mt Pleasant,.....	120	70	27	7 10	90	8	...	5	4	100	...	16.01	175.00	...	Dallastown, Pa.	
Reuel S. Weisz, D. D.,.....	4	Paradise,.....	825	516	71	3 37	8 760	7	...	83	9	375	...	355.85	1800.00	...	York, Pa.	
Israel Kieffer, D. D.,.....	2	Gettysburg,.....	345	240	16	2 21	19 330	8	2	...	7	1	130	...	180.00	1200 00	...	Gettysburg, Pa.
Moses Kieffer, D. D.,.....	4	Landisburg,.....	330	190	15	2 12	2 275	3	...	6	4	300	...	125.39	1400.00	...	Landisburg, Pa.	
Wm. H. Herbert,.....	4	Conawago,.....	480	305	21	2 15	4 442	...	...	24	3	200	...	223.92	900.00	...	Arendtsville, Pa.
Andrew J. Heller,.....	4	Without Charge,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Shippensburg, Pa.
Geo. W. Glesner, D. D.,.....	5	Abbotstown,.....	671	650	34	...	600	14	...	20	7	395	2	74.64	900.00	...	New Oxford, Pa.	
Wm. F. Colliflower,.....	3	New Bloomfield,.....	260	195	9	6	211	6	...	6	3	295	...	72.35	1825.00	...	Newport, Pa.	
John Kretzing,.....	8	Duncannon,.....	180	100	9	7	5 100	1	...	2	2	160	...	84.58	428.81	...	Duncannon, Pa.	
U. Henry Heilmann,.....	1	Newburg,.....	114	78	15	2 6	7 111	4	...	6	6	1	103	28.00	785.00	...	Newburg, Pa.	
J. Marion Mickle,.....	1	Newburg,.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Newburg, Pa.

E. Garver Williams,.....	175	100	80	...	4	...	127	...	7	4	160	\$ 105.00	\$ 625.00	Red Lion, Pa.	
Amos H. Kremer, D. D.,.....	220	176	5	4	12	14	170	...	8	1	155	20.20	2000.00	Carlisle, Pa.	
Frederick J. Sauerber,.....	174	140	4	1	15	5	145	...	3	1	225	.....	1000.00	York, Pa.	
Wm. D. Lefever,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Littlestown, Pa.	
Amrose D. Gring,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Yokohama, Japan.	
Geo. E. Adams,.....	179	85	5	...	5	5	150	7	2	4	100	72.00	294.70	Carlisle, Pa.	
Wm. H. Xanders,.....	60	...	6	...	6	...	25	...	1	4	400	.....	.....	York, Pa.	
Sup. by Aaron Wanner,.....	80	85	13	...	...	...	70	...	2	1	130	80.00	170.00	.....
Silas F. Laury,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Codorus, Pa.	
Samuel T. Wagner,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Landisburg, Pa.	
Silas M. Hensch,.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	Ickesburg, Pa.	
Total, 33.....	9665	5887	651	31	363	130	834	96	3	289	100	6073	7	\$3283.64	\$24388.51
26.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
80.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
2. CLASSIC OF MARYLAND.															
Joseph W. Santee, D. D.,.....	380	145	2	13	23	11	335	1	...	2	4	220	\$ 110.30	\$3200.00	Cavetown, Md.
George L. Staley, D. D.,.....	20	15	...	...	...	...	20	5	...	...	...	...	10.00	.....	Knoxville, Md.
Edm'd R. Eschbach, D. D.,.....	537	415	37	4	38	8	430	3	...	22	1	550	1443.21	2662.00	Frederick, Md.
William Goodrich,.....	166	75	2	6	13	6	166	7	...	3	2	150	23.81	1800.00	Cleverspring, Md.
Simon S. Miller,.....	178	128	14	3	9	2	160	4	...	4	2	175	93.56	850.00	Boonsboro, Md.
J. Spangler Kieffer,.....	277	210	16	5	17	5	215	5	...	10	2	280	332.00	2000.00	Hagerstown, Md.
Abner R. Kremer,.....	367	205	37	1	7	1	243	8	...	9	2	50	61.50	3800.00	Emmitsburg, Md.
Mortimer L. Shuford,.....	120	60	10	...	4	...	102	...	2	1	30	14.72	500.00	Burkittsville, Md.	
P. Allison Long,.....	364	360	20	4	18	0	295	6	5	22	2	150	70.00	1007.00	Taneytown, Md.
Joel T. Rossiter,.....	336	131	23	2	27	15	298	3	1	19	1	320	373.00	2308.00	Baltimore, Md.
Nehemiah H. Skyles,.....	325	225	15	...	26	2	300	...	7	2	225	246.30	2000.00	Jefferson, Md.	
Henry Wissler,.....	306	240	32	2	12	2	263	5	...	8	4	125	63.92	450.00	Mechanicstown, Md.
T. Franklin Hoffmeier,.....	360	160	32	1	6	1	305	7	...	7	1	250	364.88	1000.00	Middletown, Md.
Ambruse C. Geary,.....	78	66	9	...	2	3	170	2	...	...	...	...	90.00	800.00	Keedysville, Md.
John G. Noss,.....	770	425	53	1	42	7	588	0	...	37	3	280	152.00	2175.00	Westminster, Md.
Anthony Shulenberger,.....	18	71	11	5	24	4	110	...	...	2	2	128	25.85	1142.00	Mt. Pleasant, Md.
William Rupp,.....	428	358	40	...	5	1	380	3	...	13	3	200	90.15	1470.00	Manchester, Md.

Jacob Haesler,.....	2	London; supply,.....	186	50	9	1	180	...	...	2	110	...	\$	51.50	\$	700.00	Mercersburg, Pa.	
David N. Dittmar,.....	4	St. Clairsville,.....	391	267	21	7	19	15	344	8	11	5	2	145	...	238.25	882.00	St. Clairsville, Pa.	
Frederick A. Whitmore,.....	3	Friend's Cove,.....	283	175	24	1	22	2	267	7	...	9	3	200	...	139.50	704.66	Charlesville, Pa.	
John M. Schick,.....	1	Clover Creek; supply,.....	120	65	18	5	29	18	105	17	...	4	1	87	...	40.00	417.00	Martinsburg, Pa.	
William M. Schick,.....	3	Orbisonia,.....	102	65	10	2	3	7	85	1	...	...	2	67	...	45.00	534.00	Orbisonia, Pa.
Isaac M. Stewart,.....	3	St. Thomas,.....	185	142	22	2	2	12	168	10	...	6	1	112	1	101.70	476.28	St. Thomas, Pa.	
Isaac M. Motter,.....	2	Mon Alto,.....	172	85	11	...	2	4	12	139	2	...	2	253	1	286.50	850.00	Waynesboro, Pa.	
David W. Ebbert,.....	1	Shippensburg,.....	159	59	6	...	2	4	140	2	...	7	1	100	...	93.00	730.00	Shippensburg, Pa.	
William C. Gremer,.....	1	Chambersburg,.....	297	215	11	2	16	9	240	2	...	6	1	351	...	269.01	1561.89	Chambersburg, Pa.	
William A. Gring,.....	3	Sulphur Spring,.....	132	151	11	...	4	1	105	6	...	1	2	85	...	83.00	358.85	Mann's Choice, Pa.	
Franklin F. Bahner,.....	3	Waynesboro,.....	396	235	16	11	22	45	289	6	...	10	2	265	2	81.00	1790.00	Waynesboro, Pa.	
Henry F. Long,.....	4	Greenfield,.....	418	415	46	8	34	1	365	7	...	10	4	839	...	10.00	600.00	Claysboro, Pa.	
J. David Miller,.....	2	Martinsburg,.....	253	120	12	4	24	18	213	8	...	8	2	150	...	80.01	650.00	Martinsburg, Pa.	
Henry S. Garner,.....	3	Schellsburg,.....	250	193	24	...	14	2	201	3	...	9	2	105	...	41.32	689.69	Schellsburg, Pa.	
Cyrus H. Reiter,.....	3	Woodcock Valley,.....	313	194	51	4	49	17	305	12	...	9	3	164	...	124.00	700.00	James Creek, Pa.	
J. Alvin Reber,.....	4	McConnellsburg,.....	124	76	15	2	12	3	106	...	...	6	1	45	...	20.39	418.76	McConnellsburg, Pa.
Isaac N. Peightel,.....	2	Yellow Creek,.....	193	145	21	4	24	4	177	5	...	8	2	140	...	100.56	485.50	Pattonsville, Pa.	
Daniel H. Leader,.....	5	Everett,.....	274	150	16	9	25	3	234	5	...	7	4	165	1	130.00	885.00	Everett, Pa.	
Vacant,.....	1	Altoona,.....	308	267	40	1	17	23	234	9	...	30	6	1	200	...	441.00	1200.00	Altoona, Pa.
"	3	Hickory Bottom,.....	178	165	5	2	6	...	156	1	...	6	3	125	...	5.00	300.00	Henrietta, Pa.	
"	1	St. John's Church,.....	66	64	5	...	2	...	53	2	...	1	1	55	...	33.50	237.50	Chambersburg, Pa.	
"	1	Middleburg,.....	60	40	8	3	3	3	55	1	...	1	1	35	...	11.03	400.52	State Line, Pa.	
George F. Mull,.....		Licentiate,.....									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mercersburg, Pa.
John M. North,.....		"									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Mercersburg, Pa.
W. Wilberforce Deatrick,.....		"									...	...	...	...	...	...	...	Milton, Pa.
Samuel H. Eisenberg,.....											...	...	...	...	...	...	...	McConnellsburg, Pa.
Samuel, 34,.....	17	29.	6579	4437	477	78	411	238	5807	167	0	49	161	57	4322	12	\$	8618.95	\$21980.95
CLASS OF VIRGINIA.																			
4. C. Hensell,.....	3	Rockingham,.....	184	76	1	1	1	...	140	8	3	100	...	\$	60.00		Mt. Crawford, Va.
John C. Martin, D. D.,.....	4	Woodstock,.....	400	120	32	6	15	2	860	5	2	110	...	228.00			Woodstock, Va.

Ministers.	No. of Congregation.	Charges.	Members.	Unconfirmed.	Baptisms.	Confirmations.	Certificate.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Recommunicated.	Deaths.	Sunday-school.	Rebaptism.	Students for Ministry.	Contributions.	Post-Office Address.		
				Members.	Infants.	Adults.									Beneficent Purpose.	Constitutional Purpose.		
H. St. J. Rinker,	1	Lovettsville,	121	92	6	1	7	81	1	1	3	1	75	\$	38.00	50.00	Lovettsville, Va.	
S. N. Callender, D. D.,	2	Mt. Crawford,	210		7	14	2	190	1		5	1	75		95.00		Pleasant Valley, Va.	
C. G. Fisher,	2	Winchester,	139	85	3	7	10	86	1		3	1	85		33.00	260.00	Winchester, Va.	
Henry Tallhelm,	3	Edenburgh,	195		22	11	28	3	170	2	2	1	20		30.00	50.00	Edenburgh, Va.	
John C. Bowman,	1	Shepherdstown,	115	55	12	1	1	2	90	2	7	1	105		70.00		Shepherdstown, W. Va.	
John A. Hoffheins,	2	Martinsburg,	227		12	4	14	10	191	5	7	1	160		104.30	763.00	Martinsburg, W. Va.	
John Whitmore,	2	Middlebrook,	141		9			100			2	2	100		20.00		Middlebrook, Va.	
A. J. Carnahan,	4	Mill Creek,	241		16	3	9	1	213	5	1	4	68		42.37	322.00	Mt. Jackson, Va.	
B. Joseph S. Loose,		Without charge,															Bridgewater, Va.	
Joseph S. Bowers,		"															Weyer's Cave, Va.	
A. J. Vandersloot,		"															Herdon, Va.	
F. E. L. Whitmore,		Lately ordained,															Middlebrook, Va.	
Samuel M. Hensell,		"															Moyerheifer's Store, Va.	
Lawrence M. Hensell,		"																
Total, 15,	23	10.	1963	428	120	27	101	37	1624	16	0	2	41	14	898	1 \$	720.67 \$	1445.00
CLASSES OF NORTH CAROLINA.																		
6. William Welker,	3	Guilford,	356	167	25	20	76	3	340	1		21	8	180	1 \$		Shaw's Mills, N. O.	
G. Thomas Long,	1	Hickory,	39	21		1		35					1	44			Hickory, N. O.	
Thomas W. Cecil,	4	Upper Davidson,	180	90	15	10	44	172				4					Salem, N. O.	
John W. Diggle,	1	Moffitt's Grove,	42	18	2			42									Thomasville, N. O.	
Jesse Ingles,	3	Central Rowan,	147	80	13	13	2	140	2		1	8	140			600.00	Salisbury, N. O.	
Jacob M. Clapp,	3	Catawba,	175	75	13		8	175			1	1	70		40.00	825.00	Newton, N. O.	
Jacob M. Trexler,	2	West Rowan,	292	160	32	1	12	250	1	1	2	2	102			843.00	China Grove, N. O.	
Michael A. Foll,	4	Lower Davidson,	216	104	14	4	9	2	210			8	90	1		600.00	Silver Hill, N. O.	
John A. Foll,	8	Lincoln,	203	83	15	2	16	1	200		3	2	60			800.00	Newton, N. O.	

Julius H. Shuford, 3 Grace, \$ 800.00 Hickory, N. O.
 Robert F. Crooks, 2 East Rowan, 1000.00 Heilig's Mills, N. O.

Total, 11. 29 2175 1051 148 40 222 13 2006 5 0 1 20 21 786 4 \$ 40.00 \$ 4846.00

6. CLASSES OF SAN FRANCISCO.

Frederick Fox, Without charge, \$
 Julius H. Krueger, 1 Salem Church, 1 82 6.00 \$ 250.00 Napa City, Cal.
 Julius Fuendeling, 2 1st Ref. and St. John's, 9 13 2 350 1 40.00 850.00 San Francisco, Cal.
 Conrad F. Waldecker, 1 1st Ref. Church, 7 14 1 69 56.00 1200.00 Stockton Cal.
 Louis J. Woerle, Alameda Mission, Alameda, Cal.
 Lewis C. Edmonds, Emporia, Kansas.

Total, 6. 4 192 190 111 1 38 45 182 1 0 30 29 4 451 1 \$ 112.00 \$ 2400.00

7. CLASSES OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

John Gantenbein, 3 Portland Charge, 110 105 30 4 44 70 4 1 50 \$ 17.00 \$ 1950.00 Portland, Oregon.
 J. Muelhaupt, 2 Salem " 40 33 10 20 35 1 1 5 2.50 Salem, Oregon.
 J. Lange, 1 Meridian " 26 29 2 2 9 17 1 26 2.50 Canby, Oregon.
 George Mecktersheimer, Walla Walla Mission, Walla Walla, Wash.

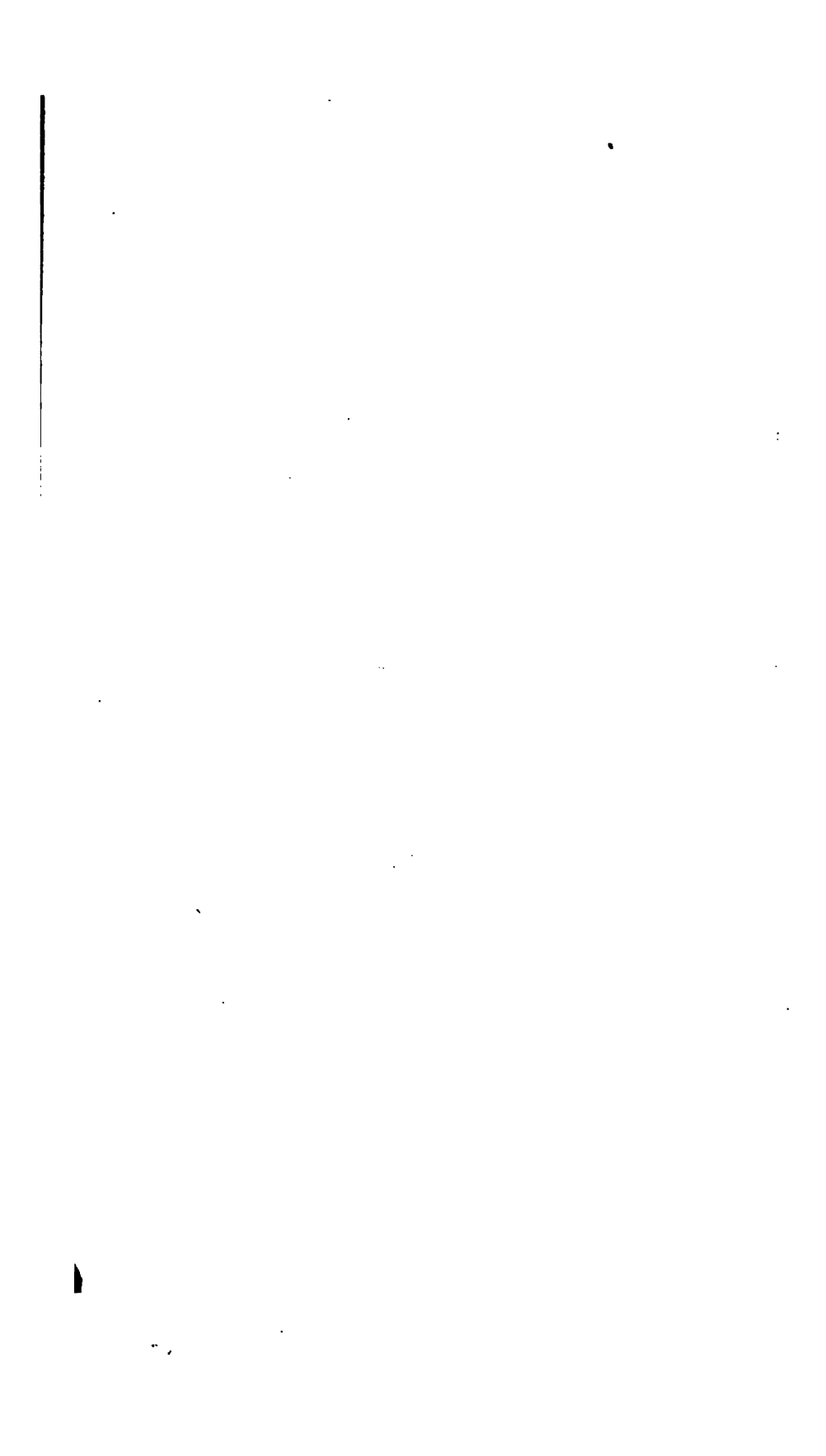
Total, 4. 6 176 167 42 0 6 73 122 9 0 0 5 8 91 0 \$ 22.00 \$ 1950.00

STATISTICAL SUMMARY. Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Ministern.	Congregations.		Members.		Confirmed Members.		Baptisms.		Confirmations.	Certificates.	Communicants.	Dismissed.	Recommended.	Ecclesiastical Names.	Deaths.	Sunday-schools.	Sunday-school Scholars.	Students for Ministry.	Contributions.	
		Members.	Unconfirmed.	Infants.	Adults.															Beneficent Purposes.	Cooperation Purposes.
Long's.....	33	80	9,665	5,867	651	31	363	180	8,344	96	8	...	289	100	6,073	7	8,283.54	\$ 24,388.51	8	8,688.70	82,690.00
Bartholomew.....	23	50	5,931	3,826	428	63	833	116	5,035	91	1	8	185	45	4,165	8	8,618.95	21,980.95	12	720.67	1,446.00
Bartholomew.....	34	71	6,579	4,437	477	78	411	238	5,807	167	..	49	161	67	4,322	1	40.00	2,800.00	4	102.00	2,800.00
Virginia.....	15	23	1,993	428	120	27	101	37	1,624	16	..	2	41	14	898	1	22.00	1,960.00	..	22.00	1,960.00
North Carolina.....	11	29	2,175	1,051	148	40	222	18	2,006	6	..	1	29	21	786	4	102.00	2,800.00	..	102.00	2,800.00
San Francisco.....	6	4	192	190	111	1	88	45	182	1	..	39	29	4	461	1	22.00	1,960.00	..	22.00	1,960.00
Portland-Oregon.....	4	6	176	167	42	..	6	78	122	9	..	..	6	3	91	..	22.00	1,960.00	..	22.00	1,960.00
Total: 7 Classes.	128	263	26,681	15,986	1,977	230	1,474	652	23,120	385	4	99	739	244	16,776	28	\$11,470.86	\$ 89,300.46	88	\$11,470.86	\$ 89,300.46
Synod of the United States, 8 Classes.	206	433	65,607	37,755	5,352	851	3,524	1,010	50,789	590	7	338	2,289	496	88,036	61	\$19,824.00	\$183,955.00	61	\$19,824.00	\$183,955.00
Synod of Ohio, 11 Classes.	145	294	20,354	10,221	1,861	546	2,162	984	17,662	380	21	484	568	282	17,744	19	9,089.00	112,854.00	19	9,089.00	112,854.00
Synod of the North-West, 10 Classes.	168	240	21,509	15,327	3,003	432	1,996	1,331	17,206	866	116	839	844	209	14,087	27	17,842.90	109,997.00	27	17,842.90	109,997.00
Synod of Pittsburgh, 5 Classes.	56	116	10,808	8,114	854	74	606	284	8,950	150	7	82	376	98	6,586	11	5,180.00	87,267.00	11	5,180.00	87,267.00
Synod of the East, 5 Classes.	42	38	9,183	6,759	1,538	15	606	396	7,513	97	79	79	326	40	5,709	8	3,332.00	66,025.00	8	3,332.00	66,025.00
German Synod: 6 Synods, 46 Classes.	785	1,384	154,742	93,162	14,585	1,258	10,368	4,637	125,243	1,968	228	1,416	5,031	1,319	98,888	149	\$66,287.86	\$699,398.46	149	\$66,287.86	\$699,398.46

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EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES

In General Convention,

AT

WOODSTOCK, VA., OCTOBER, 1880.

PHILADELPHIA:
REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD,
907 ARCH STREET.
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EIGHTH ANNUAL MEETING.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States, at its Annual Sessions, convened in General Convention, in Woodstock, Va., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord, One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the Thirteenth, and continued until the Nineteenth day of the month inclusive, at 12½ o'clock.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in *General Convention*, on Wednesday evening, October 13th, A. D. 1880, at 7 o'clock, in the Reformed Church of Woodstock, Shenandoah County, Va., pursuant to appointment of last annual meeting, and was opened with the usual liturgical services. The President of the previous year, Rev. J. W. Santee, D. D., preached the opening sermon from 1 Thess. 2: 4—"But as we were allowed of God to be put in trust with the Gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God, which trieth our hearts."

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers :—Jacob O. Miller, D. D., William K. Zieber, D. D., Reinhart R. Smith, Israel S. Weisz, D. D., Moses Kieffer, D. D., Andrew J. Heller, William F. Colliflower, John Kretzing, Frederick J. Sauerber, William H. Xanders, Silas F. Laury, William R. H. Deatrich, Aaron Spangler, and George E. Addams.

Elders :—Charles A. Shultz, Dietrich Hildebrand, Esq., George H. Stambaugh, Charles H. Ruff, Dr. Joshua E. Singer, Henry S. Rohrbach, John P. Butt, and Henry Wirt.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers :—Joseph W. Santee, D. D., Edmund R. Eschbach, D. D., William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, Joel T. Rossiter, Nehemiah H. Skyles, T. Franklin Hoffmeier, Ambrose C. Geary, Anthony Shulenberger, Leighton G. Kremer, Silas M. Hench, Charles

F. Sontag, George L. Staley, D. D., J. Spangler Kieffer, John G. Noss, Marion L. Firor, Abner R. Kremer, and P. Allison Long.

Elders:—Peter Middlekauff, Samuel Dutrow, Joseph Seibert, John Shifler, Martin H. Beachley, Samuel D. Piper, Josiah B. Zimmerman, Jacob H. Lichliter, Joseph D. Andes, Dr. M. A. Berry, Ezra Williard, H. Wirt Shriver, John M. Hoffman, J. Taylor Motter, and William H. Haugh.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers:—William M. Deatricks, Isaac G. Brown, Ellis N. Kremer, David M. Whitmore, David N. Dittmar, John M. Schick, Isaac M. Motter, David W. Ebbert, William C. Cremer, J. David Miller, J. Alvin Reber, Henry S. Garner, Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., John H. Sykes, Isaac N. Peightel, and Milton H. Sangree.

Elders:—Andrew R. Schnebly, John P. Reed, Esq., B. Franklin Diehl, Abraham Whetstone, David Grove, Frederick A. Daihl, Isaac H. Keefer, Jacob Reed, Conrad Glazer, and Samuel B. Snively.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers:—George H. Martin, D. D., Henry St. John Rinker, Samuel N. Callender, D. D., John A. Hoffheins, John C. Bowman, Barton R. Carnahan, Samuel L. Whitmore, Henry Tallhelm, Anderson J. Whitmore, Joseph S. Loose, and Lawrence M. Hensell.

Elders:—William H. Bargelt, Americus J. Souder, William A. Cushwa, Ephraim Will, Dr. David E. Strain, Dr. Theodore N. Sellers, Samuel Summey, John F. Crown, Jacob Lantz, Richard L. Gray, and John M. Stoner.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

* * * * *

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

* * * * *

VII. FROM THE CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

* * * * *

ADVISORY MEMBER.

Elder J. Heyser of Mercersburg Classis.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of the following ministers was announced from time

NOTE.—A considerable number of the members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session. Hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would appear, had they been present at the first roll-call. A number of the members also obtained leave of absence during the sessions of Synod, in order to return home.

to time, during the sessions of Synod, to wit : F. A. Richey and W. C. Maloy of the Methodist Church, and William Bowman, D. D. of the Lutheran Church.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. G. H. Martin *President*, Woodstock, Va.
 Rev. W. K. Zieber, *Vice-President*, Hanover, Pa.
 Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*, Mercersburg, Pa.
 Rev. A. J. Heller, *Corresponding Secretary*, Arendtsville, Pa.
 Dr. L. H. Steiner, *Treasurer*, Frederick, Md.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

The Rules of Order, as adopted at the first annual meeting of Synod, were read. The limits constituting the *Bar of the House* were defined, agreeably to these Rules, to consist of the first six pews from the chancel railing.

On motion, the following plan was reiterated for the formation of the Synodical Roll for the next meeting of Synod, viz:

1. It shall be the duty of the Stated Clerk of each Classis to furnish the Stated Clerk of the Synod, at least ten days before the time of meeting of next Synod, with a certified list or roll of all the ministers and pastoral charges on the Roll of Classis at the time.

2. At least ten days prior to the convening of the next annual meeting of Synod, each pastoral charge shall be required to send the proper credentials of its delegated elder or elders to the Stated Clerk of Synod.

3. The Stated Clerk of Synod shall, from these data, form a provisional roll, which shall be called immediately after the Synodical sermon has been preached, and the names of those responding shall constitute the opening Synodical Roll for the purpose of organization.

The following preamble and resolution, having reference to a revision of the Rules of Order, were adopted, to wit:

WHEREAS, The Rules of Order, used in transacting the business of Synod, were formed more than fifty years ago, for the most part; and,

WHEREAS some of these Rules conflict somewhat with the Con-

stitution of the Church, as it now is; and some of them are at variance with well-established rules in legislative bodies; therefore,

Resolved, That a special committee of five be appointed to revise our Rules of Order, so that they may be better adapted for the transacting of the business of Synod; the committee to report to Synod before final adjournment.

The President appointed the following members of Synod this committee, viz: Revs. W. M. Deatrick, S. N. Callender, W. K. Zieber, and Elders J. P. Reed and S. Dutrow.

The Committee reported, during Monday morning's session, the following Rules of Order, which were received, ordered to be incorporated in the Minutes, and further action thereon was postponed until the next annual meeting of Synod. The Rules of Order reported by the Committee are as follows, to wit:

RULES OF ORDER.

ORGANIZATION OF SYNOD.

Article I.—At least ten days before the time appointed for the Synod to meet, the Stated Clerk of each Classis shall furnish the Stated Clerk of Synod with a certified list or roll of all the ministers and pastoral charges on the Classical Roll, at the time.

Article II.—At least ten days previous to the convening of Synod, whenever the meeting shall be in general convention, each pastoral charge shall be required to send the proper credentials of its delegated elder or elders to the Stated Clerk of Synod; however, should the Synod meet as a delegated body, then it shall be the duty of the Stated Clerks of the respective Classes constituting the Synod, to furnish the credentials of their delegates to the Stated Clerk of Synod, at the time specified.

Article III.—The Stated Clerk of Synod shall, from those data, form a provisional roll, which shall be called immediately after the Synodical or opening sermon has been preached, and the names of those responding shall constitute the opening Synodical Roll, for the purpose of organization.

Article IV.—The Officers of the Synod shall consist of a President, a Vice-President, a Stated Clerk, a Treasurer, and a Corresponding Secretary; all of whom shall be annually elected, with the exception of the Stated Clerk, whose term of office and specific duties are defined by the Constitution of the Church.

DUTIES OF THE OFFICERS.

Article V.—The President of the previous year shall preach the opening sermon, and in his absence this duty shall devolve upon the Vice-President.

Article VI.—The President shall take the chair precisely at the

hour to which the Synod stands adjourned ; he shall immediately call the members to order, and shall open or cause the session to be opened with a hymn and prayer. He shall then ascertain whether or not a quorum be present.

Article VII.—It shall be the duty of the President, at all times, to preserve order and guard against the violation of the Constitution or the established Rules of Order ; to carefully keep notes of such items of business as have been deferred or assigned to particular days or times, and to call them up at the time appointed ; to appoint all committees, except in those cases in which the Synod shall decide otherwise ; and to conduct all business before Synod to a speedy and proper conclusion.

Article VIII.—The President may speak with regard to points of order in preference to other members, rising from his seat for that purpose, and shall decide questions of order, subject to an appeal to the Synod, which may be taken by any member, with a second. In this case, the member appealing may briefly state the grounds of his appeal, and the President may briefly reply. The Chair shall then put the question in the following form : Shall the appeal from the decision of the Chair be sustained ? And unless the appeal shall be sustained by two-thirds of the members voting, it shall be considered lost, and the President's decision shall stand.

Article IX.—The duties of the Vice-President, in addition to that already specified, shall be such as generally belong to that office in deliberative bodies.

Article X.—It shall be the duty of the Stated Clerk, as soon as possible after the opening of the Synod, to form a complete roll of the members present, and place the same in the hands of the President ; to keep a faithful record of the proceedings of the Synod ; to read all papers handed him by the President for that purpose ; and to file all papers in the order in which they have been read, with proper endorsements.

Article XI.—The Treasurer shall take charge of the funds of the Synod, and shall apply them according to its direction. The election of Treasurer shall not take place ordinarily until after his annual report shall have been submitted to the Synod.

Article XII.—The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct all the correspondence of the Synod, and, immediately after the appointment of any committee, he shall furnish the chairman thereof with a list of the names of the committee, as well as with its specific duties.

RULES OF ORDER PROPER.

Article XIII.—If a quorum be not assembled at the hour appointed, any two members shall be competent to adjourn from

time to time, that an opportunity may be given for a quorum to assemble.

Article XIV.—After the appearance of a quorum, the Synod shall proceed to business. The business shall be taken up in such order as shall conform most nearly to that laid down in the *Lemmata* adopted by the Synod. The business referred to Standing Committees shall have the precedence, excepting subjects that may have been assigned to some particular hour.

Article XV.—The Synod, immediately after it has completed its organization, shall define the limits which shall constitute the *Bar of the House*, and no member shall be allowed to take part in the discussion, or to vote on any question, who is not at the time within these limits.

Article XVI.—After the first day, the Journal or minutes of the preceding day shall be read each morning, corrected if necessary, and approved. After the Journal has been read, and corrected if necessary, the President shall say: "Shall the Journal be approved?" If no objections be made, he will declare the minutes approved.

Article XVII.—Business left unfinished at a preceding meeting, shall ordinarily be first taken up at the succeeding one.

Article XVIII.—When the presiding officer takes the chair, the members shall at once come to order, and, during the transaction of business, they shall not engage in conversation; nor shall one member address himself to another, or to any person present, in debate, except by permission from the President.

Article XIX.—Every member, when speaking, shall address himself to the President, and shall treat his fellow-members, and especially the President, with decorum and respect, confining himself to the subject in debate, and carefully avoiding all personalities.

Article XX.—It is indispensable that members of Synod maintain great gravity and dignity; that they attend closely in their speeches to the subject under consideration, and avoid all prolix and desultory harangues; and, when they deviate from the subject, it is the privilege of any member, and the duty of the President, to call them to order.

Article XXI.—Members, when presenting a paper or communication, shall first state its import. No member shall be interrupted when speaking, except by his own permission, unless he be out of order, or for the purpose of correcting mistakes or misrepresentation, or by a call for the previous question.

Article XXII.—If more than one member rise to speak at the same time, the member who is most distant from the President's chair shall speak first.

Article XXIII.—When more than three members of the Synod

shall be standing at the same time, the President shall require all to take their seats, except the person who may be speaking.

Article XXIV.—If any member act, in any respect, in a disorderly manner, it shall be the privilege of any member, and the duty of the President, to call him to order.

Article XXV.—A motion made must be seconded, and afterwards repeated or read aloud by the President, before it is debatable; and every motion shall be reduced to writing, if the President or any member require it.

Article XXVI.—Any member who shall have made a motion, shall have liberty to withdraw it, with the consent of his second, before any debate has taken place thereon, but not afterwards, without leave of the Synod.

Article XXVII.—A question regularly before the Synod, or under debate, can only be interrupted by a motion to amend, to commit or refer, to postpone, to take the previous question, or to adjourn.

Article XXVIII.—A motion to adjourn shall always be in order, excepting when, on the call for the previous question, the main question shall have been ordered, and shall be decided without debate.

Article XXIX.—On questions of order, commitment or reference, no member shall speak more than once. On all other debatable questions each member may speak twice, but not oftener, without leave of the Synod.

Article XXX.—If a motion, under debate, contains several parts, any member may call for a division, and may have the question taken on each part separately.

Article XXXI.—Members ought not, without weighty reasons, to decline voting, as this practice might leave the decision of very interesting and important questions to a small portion of the Synod. Silent members, unless excused from voting, must be considered as acquiescing in the vote of the majority.

Article XXXII.—When the President has begun to take the vote no further debate shall be admitted, unless it appear that a mistake has occurred; in which case the mistake shall be corrected, and the President shall recommence taking the vote.

Article XXXIII.—When a vote is taken by ballot, the President shall vote with the other members; but he shall not vote in any other case, unless the Synod shall be equally divided; when, if he do not choose to vote, the question shall be lost.

Article XXXIV.—No amendment shall be entertained by the President which destroys the general sense of the original section, clause or paragraph of a report or motion.

Article XXXV.—The previous question on any motion shall not

be called until after a reasonable time shall have been afforded to discuss it. The call to be entertained must be made by at least ten members rising in their places for the purpose. The previous question shall be in this form: Shall the main question be now put? And until it is decided, all further amendment or debate on the main question shall be precluded. The effect of a call for the previous question, when sustained, shall be to bring the Synod to a direct vote on the amendments, if any are pending, in their proper order, and then on the main question itself.

Article XXXVI.—A question shall not be again called up or reconsidered at the same annual session of the Synod, in which it has been decided, unless the motion to reconsider be made and seconded by members who voted with the majority.

Article XXXVII.—The person, first named on any committee, shall be considered as the chairman thereof, whose duty it shall be to convene the committee; and, in case of his absence or inability to act, the second named member shall take his place and perform his duties.

Article XXXVIII.—When different motions are made with respect to the filling of blanks with particular numbers or times, the question shall always be taken first, on the highest number, and on the longest time.

Article XXXIX.—No member shall be permitted to enter a protest against any decision of Synod. If a member feel himself aggrieved by any such decision, the *Yeas* and *Nays* in the case shall be recorded, if he require it.

Article XL.—The Committee on Nominations shall always report a double set of names as nominees for the vacancies occurring in the several Boards of Synod, etc. Their report shall be open to amendment or change.

Article XLI.—The Synod may sit in private, on business which, in its judgment, ought not to be matter of public discussion. The Synod may also, by a majority vote, hold what are commonly termed interlocutory meetings, or Committees of the whole Synod, in which members may freely converse together, without the usual formalities of Synodical proceedings.

Article XLII.—If a member withdraw from Synod without leave from the President, or return home without the consent of Synod, he shall incur the censure of Synod.

Article XLIII.—At the final adjournment of Synod, after appropriate religious services, the President shall pronounce the Apostolic Benediction.

The following hours were fixed for the opening and closing of the current sessions of Synod, viz:

The forenoon session to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock. The afternoon session to begin at 2 and end at 5 o'clock. An evening session was held on Monday evening, beginning at 7 o'clock.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The following Standing Committees were appointed by the President, to wit:

Religious Services: Revs. H. St. J. Rinker, N. H. Skyles, S. S. Miller, B. R. Carnahan, and Elders W. H. Bargelt, E. Will, and T. N. Sellers.

Minutes of Synod: Revs. W. M. Deatrick, J. T. Rossiter, J. A. Reber, S. M. Hench, and Elders A. J. Souder, W. A. Cushwa, and B. F. Diehl.

Overtures: Revs. W. F. Colliflower, J. M. Schick, D. N. Dittmar, L. G. Kremer, and Elders D. Hildebrand, J. Shifler, and D. Grove.

Minutes of Classes: Revs. W. C. Cremer, A. J. Heller, D. M. Whitmore, D. W. Ebbert, and Elders G. H. Stambaugh, J. E. Singer, and P. Middlekauff.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination: Revs. M. Kieffer, I. G. Brown, T. F. Hoffmeier, J. C. Bowman, and Elders A. R. Schnebly, J. P. Reed, and D. E. Strain.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports: Revs. J. W. Santee, J. Kretzing, A. C. Geary, R. R. Smith, and Elders C. H. Ruff, H. S. Rohrbach, and M. H. Beachley.

Education: Revs. J. A. Hoffheins, F. J. Sauerber, A. Shulenberg, W. H. Xanders, and Elders J. H. Lichliter, J. B. Zimmerman, and C. Glazer.

Missions: Revs. E. R. Eschbach, W. K. Zieber, S. F. Laury, C. F. Sontag, and Elders C. A. Shultz, S. Dutrow, and S. D. Piper.

Publication: Revs. S. N. Callender, E. N. Kremer, J. D. Miller, I. M. Motter, and Elders A. Whetstone, F. A. Daihl, and J. Reed.

Finance: Revs. J. O. Miller, J. T. Rossiter, J. M. Schick, S. L. Whitmore, and Elders I. H. Keefer, J. P. Reed, and W. H. Bargelt.

Nominations: Revs. W. Goodrich, A. J. Heller, D. W. Ebbert, B. R. Carnahan, and Elders J. Seibert, W. A. Cushwa, and B. F. Diehl.

Ministerial Necrology: Revs. I. S. Weisz, I. G. Brown, J. C. Bowman, L. G. Kremer, and Elders T. N. Sellers, D. E. Strain, and J. D. Andes.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, Portland-Oregon, Zion, and San Francisco were received, and referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and the Statistical Tables, which were referred to the Standing Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Annual Report of the Board of Education was laid before Synod and read, and was then referred to the Standing Committee on Education.

4. The Annual Reports of the Board of Visitors and Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary were received and read, and then referred to the same committee.

5. The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions were received and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Missions.

6. Four other communications were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following religious services, viz:

1. The sessions of each day were opened and closed with appropriate religious services.

2. The Standing Committee on Religious Services reported, which was received, amended and adopted, and is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

DEAR BRETHREN:—Your Committee on Religious Services would beg leave to report the following services to be observed by this Synod during its sessions, in the order and at the time named:

Thursday Evening, 7 o'clock.—Sermon by the Rev. F. J. Sauerber, and altar service by the Revs. E. R. Eschbach and E. N. Kremer.

Friday Evening, 7 o'clock.—Sunday-school Anniversary Service, presided over by the President of the Sunday-school Board, and altar services by Revs. D. N. Dittmar and D. W. Ebbert. Topic to be discussed: "The Sunday-school Teacher and Sunday-school Literature;" to be opened by Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, followed by Rev. I. S. Weisz, with short addresses by members of Synod.

Saturday Afternoon, 2 o'clock.—Preparatory services: sermon or address by the Rev. M. Kieffer, and altar services by the Revs. J. A. Hoffheins and G. L. Staley.

Saturday Evening, 7 o'clock.—Missionary meeting, presided over by the President of the Board of Missions, with addresses by Revs. W. K. Zieber, M. L. Firor, and W. C. Cremer.

Sunday Morning, 11 o'clock.—Communion services: sermon by the Rev. E. R. Eschbach, and altar services by the Revs. I. G. Brown and W. K. Zieber.

Sunday Afternoon, 2:30 o'clock—Sunday-School services conducted by the Superintendent of the School, with addresses by the Revs. W. Goodrich, G. E. Addams, and E. N. Kremer.

Sunday Evening, 7 o'clock.—Sermon by the Rev. E. E. Higbee, and altar services by Revs. J. G. Noss and A. J. Heller.

SERVICES IN OTHER CHURCHES.

Harrisville Reformed Church.—*Sunday Morning*, sermon by the Rev. J. C. Bowman. *Afternoon*, sermon by Rev. D. M. Whitmore.

Presbyterian Church.—*Friday Evening, 7 o'clock*, sermon by the Rev. L. G. Kremer. *Sunday Morning, 11 o'clock*, sermon by the Rev. J. T. Rossiter. *Sunday Evening, 7 o'clock*, sermon by the Rev. C. F. Sontag.

Methodist Church.—*Sunday Morning, 11 o'clock*, sermon by the Rev. E. N. Kremer, and at 7 P. M., sermon by the Rev. I. S. Weisz.

Lutheran Church.—*Sunday Morning, 11 o'clock*, sermon by the Rev. I. N. Peightel, and at 7 P. M., sermon by the Rev. W. H. Xanders.

Church of the Disciples.—*Sunday Morning*, sermon by the Rev. A. R. Kremer, and *evening*, sermon by the Rev. J. H. Sykes.

African Church.—*Sunday Morning*, sermon by the Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, and in the *evening*, sermon by Rev. J. Kretzing.

Respectfully submitted.

H. ST. J. RINKER, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting publicly by the Synod was dispensed with, and the Printed "Acts and Proceedings" of the last Annual Sessions of the Synod were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod, to report the items of unfinished business, claiming the attention of this meeting of the Synod. During the session of Thursday Forenoon, this Committee submitted the following report, which was received, considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows, to wit:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF SYNOD.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac :

Your Committee, to whom were referred the Printed Minutes of Synod of last year, after a careful perusal of them, beg leave to report the following items of unfinished business as requiring the consideration of the present sessions of the Synod, viz. :

Item 1, page 7. A Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology is appointed, whose duty it is to report at this meeting of Synod ; of which Committee Rev. I. G. Brown is Chairman.

Item 2, page 16. The action taken by the Classes of Zion and North Carolina with reference to Synod's apportionments for the Washington Mission Chapel upon said Classes, as reported to the Synod of Frederick, was disapproved of, and the apportionments were reiterated.

Item 3, page 25. It will be necessary to fill by election the vacancies that will occur, at the close of the present sessions of Synod, in the Board of Education, by the expiration of the term of service of Revs. W. M. Deatrick, J. S. Kieffer, and J. W. Santee, as members of said Board.

Item 4, page 39. Thirty-nine hundred and fifty dollars are apportioned among the several Classes of the Synod for Home Missions.

Item 5, page 39. The churches in the bounds of this Synod are urgently requested to lift a collection for the relief of our missionaries, during either the ensuing Advent or Epiphany season.

Item 6, page 39. The Classes are requested at their next annual meetings, to give special attention to the claims of the missionary cause, urge the importance of systematic benevolence, the further increase of missionary societies in congregations and Sunday-

schools, also missionary festivals, and the adoption of such measures as will tend to assure more promptly the payments of the Classical apportionments, so that the wants of our suffering missionaries may be more punctually met, and our missionary operations be more widely extended.

Item 7, page 40. The Synod again presents to the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions the special claims of the Valley of Virginia, and earnestly overtures the Board to extend its missionary work in that direction.

Item 8, page 41. It becomes necessary to elect two members of the Synodic Board of Missions, in order to fill the vacancies in said Board, caused by the expiration of the term of office of Revs. E. R. Eschbach and E. N. Kremer, which occurred on the first instant.

Item 9, page 43. It becomes proper to order the payment by Synod's Treasurer of the assessment of two hundred and sixty dollars made upon this Synod by the General Synod of Lancaster, for contingent purposes.

Item 10, page 43. An increased deficit is reported by Synod's Board of Trustees, in the fund needed to cancel the loan, made in 1875, by the direction of Synod, for the relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board.

Item 11, page 43. It will be necessary to elect a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod, to fill the place of Rev. J. O. Miller, whose term of service will expire January 1, A. D., 1881, according to the Charter.

Item 12, page 45. It becomes necessary to elect a member of the Sunday-School Board, to fill the place of Rev. W. K. Zieber whose term of office ends at this meeting of Synod.

Item 13, page 45. The Stated Clerk is instructed to have two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last annual sessions of Synod published, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive Minutes of Synod.

Item 14, page 49. The Synod calls upon the Classes and ministers, and membership within her bounds, to put forth a decided and most vigorous effort to increase the circulation of our church periodicals and the volume of the business of the Reformed Church Publication Board.

Item 15, page 50. The Committee, appointed to prepare and publish, jointly with a similar Committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church" *with music*, was continued: of which Committee Rev. E. E. Higbee is Chairman.

Item 16, page 52. Revs. S. N. Callender, G. W. Welker, and

Elders H. Wirt and L. H. Steiner are chosen delegates to the Peace Convention, held at Harrisburg, Pa., last November.

Item 17, page 56. The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College are directed to put an agent in the field for the purpose of raising funds for the immediate necessities of said Institution, and also for the further purpose of raising twenty thousand dollars for the permanent endowment of the College, and to secure a faculty such as may be necessary to conduct the Institution with the least possible expense.

Item 18, page 56. The Board of Education are directed to request the Board of Regents to discontinue the Post-Graduate Department or Course of study, in the College.

Item 19, page 56. The Board of Regents are requested to secure such change in the Charter of Mercersburg College as shall put the election of the members of the Board necessarily in the hands of the Synod.

Item 20, page 57. The term of office of Rev. Wm. A. Gring, John L. Reifsnyder, and Wm. Heyser expires during the present month.

Item 21, page 58. Are two resolutions, the first empowering and directing the Treasurer of Synod to receive a certain legacy bequeathed to the Synod, and make the necessary release in the premises; and the second ordering the Trustees of Synod to take charge of said bequest or legacy, and apply the same as directed by the testator, Philip Brechbill.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK,
JOEL T. ROSSITER,
J. ALVIN REBER,
SILAS M. HENCH,
WM. A. CUSHWA,
B. F. DIEHL,
A. J. SOUDER,

Committee.

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article XXII., Ministerial Necrology; items 2, 5, 6, and 14 were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes; items 3, 8, 11, 12, and 20 were referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations to make the necessary nominations; items 4 and 7 were referred to the Standing Committee on Missions; on items, 9, 10, and 21, see Article XV., Finance; on items 13 and 15, see Article XX., Publication; on item 16, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; and on items 17, 18, 19, see Article XIII., Education.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Standing Committee on Overtures presented their report, which was received, acted on item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows :

The Committee on Overtures respectfully report, that four communications have been placed in their hands, viz :

No. 1. A communication from the Rev. C. Cort, President of the Board of Missions of Iowa Classis, in which the Board suggests to this Synod. (a). To take charge of one or more missionary points in the larger cities within their bounds ; to select men to take charge of them, and the Classis will cheerfully co-operate in his or their support. (b). The Board requests this Synod to redeem the pledge, in full, of \$500.00, made four years ago at York, Pa., the greater part of which is still unpaid. (c). The same Board requests an additional appropriation in its favor, for the present year, be made by Synod.

No. 2. A letter from the Rev. S. C. Long, Corresponding Secretary of the Iowa Classis, on the same subject, viz. : Reminding this Synod of the pledges made some years ago, and requests Synod to take some action in reference to fulfilling them, as soon as possible.

No. 3. A communication from Rev. B. Bausman, D. D., President of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphan Home at Womelsdorf, containing a statement of the condition and wants of said institution, together with the request to assist them to find good homes for the children in Christian families, and to send gifts for the education and maintenance of the orphans in the Home.

No. 4. A communication from the Rev. W. H. H. Snyder, Secretary of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions.—(a). Calling the attention of this Synod to the fact of an irregularity of the Maryland Classis in the payment of missionaries without orders from said Board of Missions. (b). Urging upon the Synod and Classes the prompt payment of the apportionments made for the Washington Mission Chapel.

Respectfully submitted.

W. F. COLLIFLOWER,
J. M. SCHICK,
D. N. DITTMAR,
L. G. KREMER,
DIETRICH HILDEBRAND,
JOHN SHIFLER,
DAVID GROVE,

Committee.

Items 1 and 2 were referred to the Standing Committee on Missions for consideration ; and for the action of Synod on items 3 and 4, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes presented their report, during the session of Saturday morning, which was received, disposed of item by item, then adopted as a whole, and is as follows :

Your Committee on Minutes of Classes beg leave to offer the following as their report :

I. IRREGULARITIES.

1. The Stated Clerk of the Portland-Oregon Classis failed to furnish the report on the State of Religion separate from the body of the Minutes, as required.

2. The Minutes of the same Classis fail to state, that the usual constitutional questions, in connection with the reading of parochial reports, were propounded to the delegate elders.

3. The Stated Clerk of the same Classis failed to certify, under seal and signature, that the Minutes sent to Synod are true copies of the original Minutes.

4. The Stated Clerk of the San Francisco Classis failed to certify, under seal and signature, that the minutes sent to Synod are true copies of the original Minutes.

5. The San Francisco Classis met and transacted business without a quorum.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

6. The following action was taken by the Mercersburg Classis in reference to the Peace movement of the General Synod, namely : " WHEREAS, Most happy results have already been reached by the Peace movement inaugurated by the General Synod, at its triennial sessions, held in Lancaster, Pa., in May, 1878 in the peace and good-will, which have come to prevail in all our pastoral charges, and in the increased denominational prosperity and growth, manifested throughout the entire Church; and, WHEREAS, The General Synod, at its next meeting, to be held in Tiffin, Ohio, in May, 1881, contemplates, in furtherance of said movement, action concerning the cultus and government of the Church : therefore,

Resolved, That this Classis respectfully overtures the Synod of the Potomac to recommend to all its congregations the observance of the 18th day of May, 1881, upon which the General Synod is to convene, as a time of fasting and prayer for the Divine blessing upon the deliberations of that body."

7. San Francisco Classis requests to be excused for the irregularity of transacting business without a quorum.

8. The same Classis petitions Synod to be relieved one more year from Synodical assessments.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

None.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO THE CLASSES.

9. All the Classes have taken favorable action on the subject of Home Missions and Beneficiary Education.

10. Virginia Classis accedes to Synod's refusal to relieve the Classis from its apportionment in behalf of Washington Mission Chapel.

11. All the Classes took favorable action in reference to the current expenses of Synod, but in the Minutes of North Carolina Classis we find the following action: *Resolved*, That Classis pay \$40.00 to the Treasurer of the Synod of the Potomac as assessed, but that it takes exception to, and protests against the payment of that part, which goes to pay the loan for the Relief of the Publication Board. This Classis holds, that to include such loan in the current expenses of the Synod is wrong, and not in accordance with faith and truth, and that hereafter this Classis will pay no such improper assessment."

12. All the Classes apportioned by Synod in behalf of the Washington Mission Chapel have acceded to the Synod's action, with the exception of Zion's Classis.

13. All the Classes took favorable action in reference to the Church Periodicals and the interests of the Reformed Church Publication Board.

14. The Classes of Zion, Mercersburg, and Virginia took favorable action in reference to lifting a collection in behalf of the Professors of the Theological Seminary.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED, AND DISMISSED.

15. Zion's Classis received Rev. David U. Wolff from the Lebanon Classis, Rev. Henry Hilbish from the Eastern Ohio Classis; and dismissed the licentiate Silas M. Hench to the Maryland Classis, Rev. Wm. H. Herbert to the Mercersburg Classis, and the licentiate Samuel T. Wagner to the Somerset Classis.

16. Maryland Classis received the licentiate Silas M. Hench from Zion's Classis of this Synod, and the licentiate Charles F. Sontag from the East Susquehanna Classis, and ordained them to the work of the Holy Ministry; and dismissed Rev. G. B. Russell, D. D., to the Mercersburg Classis, Rev. Charles H. Coon to the Lebanon Classis, and Rev. Orange E. Lake to the Tuscarawas Classis.

17. Mercersburg Classis received the licentiate Simon Wolf from the West Susquehanna Classis, and ordained him and the licentiate Daniel H. Lender to the office of the Holy Ministry, received Rev. John M. Titzel from the Westmoreland Classis, and Rev. Wm. H. Herbert from Zion's Classis of this Synod; and dismissed the licentiate W. Wilberforce Deatrick to the Somerset Classis.

18. Virginia Classis dismissed the Rev. Charles G. Fisher to the Philadelphia Classis.

19. San Francisco licensed E. De Geller, and ordained him to the work of the Holy Ministry, and dismissed the Rev. J. H. Krueger to the Cincinnati Classis.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

20. Zion's Classis will meet in New Bloomfield, Perry county, Pa., on Thursday, June 9th, A. D., 1881, at 7:30, P. M., Rev. A. Spangler, *President*; and Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*.

21. Maryland Classis will meet in St. Paul's Reformed Church, Baltimore, Md., on Thursday, May 5th, A. D., 1881, at 7:30 o'clock, P. M., Rev. J. T. Rossiter, *President*; and Rev. S. S. Miller, *Stated Clerk*.

22. Mercersburg Classis will meet in Martinsburg, Blair County, Pa., on Wednesday, April 27th, A. D., 1881, at 7:30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. E. N. Kremer, *President*; and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk*.

23. Virginia Classis will meet in St. Luke's Reformed Church, of the Mill Creek charge, Shenandoah county, Va., on Wednesday, May 4th, A. D., 1881, at 7:30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. H. St. John Rinker, *President*; and Rev. B. R. Carnahan, *Stated Clerk*.

24. North Carolina Classis will meet in the Salem Reformed Church, Lincoln county, N. C., on Thursday, June 23d, A. D., 1881, at 11 o'clock, A. M., Rev. J. Ingold, *President*; and Rev. G. Wm. Welker, *Stated Clerk*.

25. San Francisco Classis will meet in the Reformed Church of Napa, Napa county, California, on Friday, June 10th, A. D., 1881, at 8 o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. Fuendeling, *President*; and Rev. C. F. Waldecker, *Stated Clerk*.

26. Portland-Oregon Classis will meet in the Evangelical Reformed Church of the Waldo-Hill Congregation at Silverton, Oregon, on Thursday, July 14th, A. D., 1881, at 7:30 o'clock, P. M. Rev. J. Gantenbein, *President*; and Rev. J. Lange, *Stated Clerk*.

Respectfully submitted.

W. C. CREMER,
A. J. HELLER,
D. M. WHITMORE,
D. W. EBBERT,
J. E. SINGER,
P. MIDDLEKAUFF.
Committee.

Items 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 23, 24, 25, 26, were severally adopted. For the action of Synod on items 6 and 12, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; on items 7, 11, and 19, see Article XIX., Church Government; and the request in item 8 was granted.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE AND ORDINATION.

The Standing Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination reported, during the session of Monday Forenoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

The Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination beg leave to report, that there have been no applications referred to the Committee.

Respectfully submitted.

M. KIEFFER, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports offered the following report, during the session of Saturday Forenoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows, to wit:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON THE STATE OF RELIGION.

It is a matter of devout gratitude to God, that, as members of the Synod of the Potomac, we have been permitted to meet under such favorable circumstances, to review the work of the past Synodical year. The health and strength of both ministry and laity have been marked, and call for thankfulness, and it is becoming to give expression in the words of the Psalmist: "Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name." This Synod is in its infancy, but in its brief history it has done work for the Master of no mean order. There is within its territory a vast missionary field, the cultivating of which, seems to be made its special work, which calls for laborers and means to gather the ripening harvest, and it is idle to say, that the ministry in our Church is over supplied, when the truth is, that scores might be settled alone, over this one vast field.

The reports of the different Classes placed into our hands, give an interesting account of the internal life as well as outward growth of the work of the Lord within their bounds. They speak, first of all, of the goodness of God towards the ministry in sparing their lives and permitting them to labor in their respective fields. With grateful hearts we note this fact, not only to the ministry, but also to the people under their care. They also make special mention of earnest pastoral work done during this year. According to the requirement of the Constitution, they say, that the Gospel was faithfully preached as the standards of the Church require, that the sacraments were regularly administered—that pastoral visitation was attended to as circumstances permitted. Many of the pastoral charges are large, with a membership scattered over a large territory, that it is scarcely

possible to satisfy the demands which these charges make, and it required much self-denial and constant labor to do the work that was done during the year.

The reports likewise make mention of the fact, that peace, harmony, and good-will are prevailing within the entire bounds of this Synod. It appears, that the entire Church is pervaded with the spirit of the movement for peace, and that the Church, in general, eagerly seized upon the offer made by the last General Synod, and quickly accepted it, only shows how eager was her longing for repose and rest. The Church is beginning to realize "how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity." This spirit is abounding throughout the bounds of this Synod, according to the reports that pastors and people are actuated by it, and under its influence labor and worship. This is cause for thankfulness. One report says: "All signs seem to indicate that, with the remaining portion of our beloved Church, we as a Classis, have entered upon such a period of internal tranquility and peace as may be expected, under the blessing of God, to prove favorable in the highest degree to a quiet and regular development and growth in grace." In connection with this, the reports speak of the encouraging attendance on the services of the sanctuary on the Lord's day. It is true, there are no reports of any extraordinary or wonderful awakenings, seeing that the Lord is not so much in the storm and wind, as in the quiet, silent working of His grace, by means of the agencies He employs in His Church. He sends down quietly and gently the heavenly dews, in the preached Word, the administration of the sacraments, and through them the inner, spiritual life is nourished, grows and expands. Because of this, there has been a steady advance in grace and in holiness, and an earnest living for God. In close connection with the matter of worship, that of alms-giving as a part of it has received new life, and it is gratifying to note this fact from the reports, that there has been a marked increase in the benevolence of the membership of the Church. This is one of the lessons to be learned, that "thy prayers and thine alms are come up for a memorial before God." There is a manifest advance, over former years, and it should be steadily kept before the mind of the Church, that, with every year, her wants enlarge and call for greater liberality. In order to keep pace with these wants, as one report says, "It becomes us, as pastors, not only to hope for, but also to *labor* for the much needed reform, so that we may hasten the day when those who worship the Lord shall, with cheerful heart, give unto the Lord according as He has prospered them." Because of the failure of the Church, at times to meet these wants, another report says: "The plans which we form for the extension of our Redeemer's kingdom, though by no means extravagant, though not at all times commensurate with our ability, are found repeatedly to fail for want of that unanimous and generous support which they deserve and ought to receive. This oft repeated and mortifying failure of our plans we attribute, not surely to lack of piety and devotion on the part of our people, but rather, in good measure, to a lack of that unanimity of action without which no organized body can succeed in accomplishing its objects, to a want of good management in the development of the really fine capabilities of the people under our care." This is a point claiming the earnest attention of this reverend body.

The increase in membership by means of our time-honored system of catechization and confirmation, has been considerable. Much of this increase has been drawn from the Sunday-school, another department of church work greatly blessed of God. This interest is becoming better organized with every year, and finding its proper place, is made to stand in right relation to the congregation, under whose oversight it is, and is proving itself an efficient agency in teaching the young the blessed truths of the Master, and from whose ranks the catechetical class is to be filled. This interest needs to be encouraged and fostered by the Synod.

From the reports of the California and Portland Oregon Classes, your committee learn, that the work of planting the Reformed faith on the Pacific coast, is steadily moving forward. The brethren located along the coast labor amidst much self-denial and patience. It appears that they encounter the same difficulties in their work, which opposed the apostle in preaching the Gospel in his day. From the reports we learn, that there are lights and shadows marking their labors, but the Lord is with these heroic and faithful servants, blessing their humble labors. Separated as these brethren are, they are one with us in the Lord, and share in our prayers, and their success and prosperity, as well as their trials and sorrows are ours; for "whether one member suffer, all the members suffer with it; or one member be honored, all the members rejoice with it."

From this review, there is much ground for encouragement and hope; and while thus hopeful, the reports are not wanting in expressions of sorrow, because of a spirit of worldliness and indifference, as they say, many being sick, while others are asleep, and that in face of the incessant warfare which the enemy of souls ever wages. This should excite and stir up within every faithful servant, greater zeal, diligence, earnestness and faithfulness in the Master's service, and then patiently labor while the day lasts, and with vigor and determination to renew the work marked out for the incoming Synodical year. There is much work to be done for the Master by this young Synod. Indeed a large part of the territory of this Synod is missionary ground. So our brethren in the far off Classis of North Carolina say. There is room among them for many self-denying, heroic servants of Christ. The gap which lies between the outposts of the Virginia Classis and that of North Carolina should be filled out,—there should be one continued artery from the North to the most remote bounds of the South, that the pulsations of the great heart of the Church might be felt over her whole body—that every section might feel the warm throbbing of the same, and that the entire membership might thus stand in one life, and be actuated by one hope. May the Lord hasten the day!

In this connection, your committee would bring to the notice of this body, the fact, that, during the past year, two of our number have been relieved from their work in the Church militant and translated to the Church triumphant. Yea, rather should we not say, with the gladness of rejoicing, that father Jacob Sechler, and brother John Ault, have been awarded the crown. Their names are not erased from the Synodical roll as lost to this Synod and the Church, but are carried along as no longer active, but relieved from duty by the Master of the Vineyard. They rest from their labors and relieved, look on from their elevated homes, while we labor and toil on, and await our coming. Their work is done, but the Master has work still for us to do, and by their removal from these active scenes, He reminds us of the time hastening on, when we likewise shall be relieved, and bids us to be faithful in His service that we in the end may also receive the crown.

"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

Respectfully submitted.

J. W. SANTEE, *Chairman.*

[For Statistical Tables see Appendix.]

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

The Board of Education presented their annual report to Synod, during the session of Thursday Forenoon, which was received, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education. The report is as follows, to wit:

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

The Board of Education begs leave to present to the Synod their annual report, as follows:

The Board, at its meeting in Frederick, held at the close of the last annual meeting of Synod, was organized by the re-election of the officers of the previous year, viz: Rev. S. N. Callender, *President*; Rev. I. G. Brown, *Secretary*; and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Treasurer*. The Executive Committee of the former year was re-appointed, which consists of the members of the Board resident in Mercersburg, together with Rev. W. C. Cremer.

The Board had under their care and supervision, during the whole of the past Synodical year, seven young men as beneficiary students. Four of these pursued their theological studies in the Theological seminary at Lancaster, Pa. They are all reported as studying well, and conducting themselves, in every way, becoming young men preparing for the holy ministry. Two of them have only one year more to spend in the Seminary, in order to complete their full theological course of study. The other three beneficiaries are members of the Senior, Junior, and Sophomore classes, respectively, of our institutions at Mercersburg and Lancaster. We are pleased to be able to report, that these young brethren likewise are making commendable progress in their studies, and their moral deportment is also spoken of as praiseworthy.

At present the Board has still the same beneficiary students to supply with funds. There has been no increase or diminution of those under the care and supervision of the Board, during the last Synodical year. To meet the appropriations made to these young men by their respective Classes will require upwards of one thousand dollars. Such provision has been promised in behalf of three of them by the Mercersburg Classis, and for a like number of them by the Maryland Classis, and for one of them by the Virginia Classis.

It is to be greatly regretted that the Zion's Classis, which is represented in the Board by one of its pastors, has not seen fit to carry forward its beneficiary operations in connection with Synod's Board of Education. In consequence of this unhappy fact, injustice is done the Synod, inasmuch as the Board can only properly report the number of beneficiary students under its care and supervision, and the funds contributed to meet their special appropriations. The aggregates of both would be considerably larger, did the Classis, just referred to, co-operate in the work, as carried forward by the Synod. The Constitution of the Church requires each Synod to give every necessary attention to the education of indigent, pious young men for the ministry, and explicitly affirms, that such operations are to be conducted by a Board specially appointed for the purpose, and that such Board shall be subject to the control of Synod, and shall annually submit to it a faithful report of its transactions, and of the state of the interest committed to its care.

Therefore, any Classis, carrying on its beneficiary operations apart from and independent of the Synod's Board of Education, does certainly assume and occupy an abnormal relation to the Synod, in so far as it refuses or neglects to co-operate with Synod in performing its constitutional duties.

The Board would report to the Synod, that, agreeably to the recommendation of the Synod of Frederick, the authorities of Mercersburg College discontinued the Post-graduate department, or theological course of studies, in said institution within a few days after the adjournment of last Synod. The students who had been receiving special theological instruction at Mercersburg College, repaired to the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and have been since then prosecuting their studies in that Institution.

Agreeably to a special resolution of the Board, adopted at its meeting in Frederick, the Treasurer paid to Mercersburg College \$135 00, during the past Synodical year, on its claim against one of the pastors of the Virginia Classis who was sent to said Institution years ago, by one of the Western Classes, with the promise of beneficiary aid, which the Classis unfortunately failed to render. The brother referred to prosecuted his studies amid great financial pressure and the generous indulgence of the College, without receiving the usual assistance given to indigent, but worthy students preparing themselves for the ministry. As he has proven himself to be an energetic and laborious pastor, receiving but a small salary, and also, inasmuch as the College was known to be in pecuniary straits, the Board deemed it proper, in view of the facts just mentioned, to authorize the payment of the amount specified. No one, we think, can reasonably object to the course taken by the Board.

It affords the Board special pleasure to be able to report to the Synod, that the Treasurer of the Board has punctually paid the appropriations severally promised to the beneficiary students, in quarterly installments, as his vouchers testify. These payments have usually been made at or near the beginning of the scholastic quarter, or about every ten weeks—beginning with the College year. This enables the beneficiaries to prosecute their studies with less anxiety and worryment, than the old regime of paying in dribblets, or not until the end of the term, did. The Board cannot help but regard the paying in quarterly installments, and at or near the commencement of the scholastic quarter, as the proper system to be pursued in carrying on this very important arm of church work, and fondly hopes that the friends of this noble cause will continue to come up generously and punctually with their contributions, as in the past two years. With thankful hearts we acknowledge the grace and goodness of the great Head of the Church, who has been pleased to put it into the hearts of His people to sustain this good work, and make it possible for our Treasurer to carry out the plans of the Board.

The Board also thankfully acknowledge the receipt of a legacy of \$200, last December, bequeathed to the cause by Jacob Stoudenour, of Friend's Cove, Bedford County, Pa., who departed this life in February, A. D. 1863. The bequest was not payable until after the death of the testator's widow. This accounts for the payment so long afterwards. The principal was ordered to be funded, the interest thereof alone to be applied to the charitable uses of the Board of Education, and under its direction. By order of the Board, the amount of the legacy was loaned by the Treasurer to the Board of Trustees of Synod, for the term of one year. The interest for one year will soon be due, and it is, accordingly, recommended to the Synod to instruct its Treasurer to pay the sum of twelve dollars, being one year's interest on the amount, when due in next December, to the Treasurer of the Board of Education, so that the conditions of the bequest may be fulfilled.

In this connection, it may not be out of place, to state that our Treasurer is in communication with the executors of two other estates, within the

bounds of Mercersburg Classis, whose testators have left bequests to the cause of Beneficiary Education. He cherishes the fond hope, that a part at least, if not the whole amount, of these legacies will come into his possession, during the coming year. At least such promises have been given to him by the executors, who are personal friends.

Since the Lord has given grace to some of His servants to remember the cause in making their last wills and testaments, may not the expectation be cherished, that many others will imitate their laudable example, and go and do likewise?

The Treasurer of the Board gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following sums for Beneficiary Education, during the last Synodical year. The aggregate amount contributed by each pastoral charge is given, omitting the items and dates of payment, to wit:

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Mercersburg Classis.

Bedford Charge.....	\$50.00
St. Clairsville	50.00
Waterstreet	45.00
Greencastle	35.00
Mont Alto	31.00
Chambersburg	30.00
Mercersburg	30.00
College Church	30.00
Yellow Creek	25.00
Woodcock Valley	20.00
Shippensburg	20.00
St. Thomas	20.00
Schellsburg	18.41
Altoona	15.00
Waynesboro	15.00
Sulphur Spring	10.00
Friend's Cove	10.00
Grindstonehill	6.20
Orbisonia	6.00
Hickory Bottom	6.00
Huntingdon	5.50
Middleburg	5 03
St. John's Church of Chambersburg,	5.00
McConnellsburg Charge.....	3.00
Loudon	2.00
Greenfield .....	.35
Amount.....	\$493.49

Maryland Classis.

Ev. Reformed Church of Frederick.....	\$106.34
Westminster Charge.....	45.00
Hagerstown Charge.....	42.50
First Reformed Church of Baltimore.....	35.00
Cavetown Charge.....	30.00
Third Reformed Church of Baltimore.	25.00
Jefferson Charge.....	23.53
Manchester	20.00
Middletown	18.50
Clear Spring	18.00

Mount Moriah Charge.....	15.00
Boonsboro ".....	15.00
Mechanicstown ".....	6.00
Mount Pleasant ".....	5.00
St. Stephen's Church of Knoxville.....	1.00
Amount.....	<u>\$405.86</u>

Virginia Classis.

Interest on Rinker legacy, per late Treasurer.....	\$150.00
Thank-offering per Mr. B. Schmitt.....	20.00
Amount.....	<u>\$170.00</u>

Bequest.

Estate of Jacob Stoudenour, Friend's Cove, Pa.....	\$200.00
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RECAPITULATION.

Summary of Receipts.

October 15, 1879. Balance in Treasury.....	\$352.50
Received from Mercersburg Classis.....	493.49
" " Maryland ".....	405.86
" " Virginia ".....	170.00
Legacy of Jacob Stoudenour.....	200.00
Total Receipts.....	<u>\$1621.85</u>

Summary of Payments.

Paid beneficiary students of Maryland Classis.....	\$450.00
" " " Mercersburg ".....	406.25
" " " Virginia ".....	150.00
Loaned to Synod's Board of Trustees, being amount of Stoudenour Legacy.....	200.00
Paid Mercersburg College for Rev. B. R. C.....	135.00
Travelling expenses of Treasurer.....	2.75
Postage, revenue stamps, etc.....	1.75
October 11, 1880. Balance in Treasury.....	276.10
Total Payments.....	<u>\$1621.85</u>

Respectfully submitted.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We hereby certify, that we have carefully audited the account of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct.

The foregoing Synopsis and Recapitulation are a true and faithful statement of the same. There is a balance in the Treasury, at this date, of \$276.10.

J. HASSLER,
I. G. BROWN,
Auditing Committee.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 11, 1880.

II. REPORT OF BOARD OF VISITORS OF THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The following is the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary, as furnished by the Secretary of the Board, viz:

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, to the Synod of Pittsburgh, and to the Synod of the Potomac.

REVEREND BRETHREN :—The Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary respectfully present the following as their annual report:

That the Seminary was opened on the first Thursday of September, 1879, and continued in session throughout the year, except the two weeks during the Christmas recess.

That the following members were admitted at the beginning of the year, six in number: Andrew T. G. Apple, E. Ranson Deatrick, Wilson D. Donat, James R. Lewis, Jacob J. Rothrock, and Christian W. Summey. Two of these are graduates of Mercersburg College, three of Franklin and Marshall College, and one was admitted to the privilege of a partial course.

That the following persons, seven in number, having finished the course of study prescribed by the Board, and having sustained their final examination creditably, were dismissed and recommended for licensure: Thomas M. Balliet, Alfred F. Dreisbach, Jacob S. Hartzel, William J. Kerschner, Charles F. Sontag, Oliver H. Strunk, and Franklin Wetzel. With one exception, they have all entered upon the active duties of the Holy Ministry.

That, at the request of the Faculty, the study of the Chaldee language was made binding on all the students of the Seminary who pursue a regular course; as without a knowledge of that language they are not in a condition to read a portion of the Old Testament in the original.

That the Board for several years past have been considering the necessity of a more extended use of the German language in the instructions of the Seminary; and that, at the last annual meeting of the Board, the Faculty were instructed to draw up some plan by which this object may be secured, and to report next year. We understand that this has already been attended to; and that two of the professors hold weekly recitations from German text-books, and that one of them conducts his recitations in that language.

That during the progress of the year nothing has occurred that needs to be noticed in this general report. The conduct of the students has been good, and the Faculty reports, that what was said of their general character in the previous year, might again be repeated. The examinations at the close of the year, which were somewhat diversified this year, were regarded as satisfactory; showing that the professors and students have been diligent in the discharge of their duties.

And that the Seminary is prosperous, and, through legacies and gifts, is increasing its means of usefulness. It will still need the prayers and pecuniary help of the Church, in order that it may become more and more a perennial source of blessings to the Church and to the Kingdom of God at large.

Respectfully submitted.

Lancaster, Pa., }
Oct. 9, 1880. }

THEODORE APPEL, *Secretary.*

III. REPORTS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND TREASURER.

The following reports were received from the Board of Trustees and Treasurer of the Theological Seminary, to wit:

REPORT OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, OCTOBER,
1880.

To the Potomac Synod of the Reformed Church:

BRETHREN:—The Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary beg leave to present their annual report:

The Board met twice during the year, and transacted the usual routine business. We have no suggestions to make requiring the action of Synod. The Treasurer's report will exhibit the financial status of the institution, which we are glad to say is somewhat improved since our last report, owing to the receipt of a donation of \$5000 for the endowment fund from an anonymous source. The Board is ready to receive more anonymous letters of the same kind. This donation came to us ready invested, and bearing interest from January 1, 1880.

It is our sad duty to announce to your reverend body the death of Elder William A. Wilt, of York, Pa., for a long time a member of our Board. At its last meeting the Board adopted the following paper in reference to this loss to the Church:

"Since our last meeting one of our members has been called from his labors in this life to enter into that rest which remaineth for the people of God. Brother Wm. A. Wilt died at his home in York, Pa., on Sunday morning, September 5th, 1880. His life and labors in the Church bear witness to his earnestness and zeal as a follower of Jesus Christ, and we are glad to add our testimony to his faithfulness as a member of this board. He has joined the company of the redeemed of all ages, and we give thanks for the good example he has left behind him to encourage those of us who follow after in the way of life. He manifested his interest in the institution we represent by a liberal bequest to its endowment fund, thus verifying his faith by his works."

We earnestly pray that these two examples of liberality—the one coming in the spirit of not letting the right hand know what the left hand doeth, and the other like the parting blessing of a dying saint, may stir up many others in the Church to go and do likewise.

Respectfully submitted.

D. W. GROSS, *Pres't.*

JNO. B. ROTH, *Treas.*

EDWARD J. ZAHM, *Rec. Sec.*

Lancaster, Pa., October 7, 1880.

JOHN B. ROTH, *Treasurer in account with the Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church in the U. S.*

DR.

Oct. 11, 1880, For amounts received as interests on Endowment, Building and Pittsburgh Prof. Funds..... \$4,382.41

CR.

Oct. 20, 1879, By Balance due Treasurer..... 995.59

Oct. 11, 1880, By Sundry payments made to date per vouchers..... 5,041.91

6,037.50

Amount Dr. down..... 4,892.41

Oct. 11, 1880, Amount due Treasurer..... 1,655.09

Library Fund.

DR.

Amount of Fund is.....	\$2,069.96
Oct. 11, 1880, For Balance due by Treasurer and sundry interests received to date.....	208.83

CR.

Oct. 11, 1880, By sundry bills paid to date.....	63.80
" " " Balance in hands of Treasurer.....	145.33

Smalts Fund.

Amount of Fund is.....	\$5,000.00
Oct. 11, 1880, For Balance by Treasurer and interest received.....	355.00

CR.

Oct. 11, 1880, By sundry orders paid to date.....	171.61
" " " Balance in hands of Treasurer.....	183.39

Pittsburgh Prof. Fund.

DR.

Oct. 11, 1880, Amount of Fund is.....	1,718.30
No increase, and interest on this fund credited to contingent fund account of Theological Seminary.	

Building Fund.

DR.

Oct. 20, 1879, Amount of Fund is.....	\$12,296.05
May 7, 1880, Amount received on account of note from James T. Reber.....	100.00
Oct. 11, 1880, Amount of Fund.....	12,396.05

Endowment Fund.

Oct. 20, 1879, Amount of Fund reported.....	\$64,508.59
Nov. 10, 1879, Rev. F. W. Vandersloot's note paid.....	100.00
April 21, 1880, Gift from a friend.....	5,000.00
July 26, 1880, Cash received of Rev. F. K. Levan, payment in full for payment made him in 1877 for use of Theological Seminary by the Mansdale congregation of the Danville charge, and retained by him until now.....	60.22

About \$66,000 is interest-bearing. \$69,668.81

The interest received on the Vandersloot and Levan payments is credited in Seminary contingent Fund account.

The undersigned auditing committee, having examined the Treasurer's accounts and compared his vouchers, find them correct.

Signed,

GEO. W. HENSEL,
EDWARD J. ZAHM.

Lancaster, October 7, 1880.

IV. REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom the foregoing Report of the Board of Education and Reports of the Board of Visitors, Board of Trustees and Treasurer of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., had been referred, reported during the session of Saturday Afternoon. Their report was received, considered item by item, amended, and then adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

To the Synod of the Potomac.

Your Committee on Education desire to make the following report. Four documents have been referred to the Committee—the Report of the Board of Education of this Synod, the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, the Report of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, and the Report of the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary.

From the Report of the Board of Education, we learn, that the Board was organized by the re-election of the officers, and the re-appointment of the executive committee of the previous year. The Board had under its care during the past year seven young men as Beneficiaries, four of them pursuing the Theological Course, who are represented as model young men, and three in the Collegiate departments at Mercersburg and Lancaster, who are reported as making commendable progress in their studies, and deporting themselves in a praiseworthy manner. The Board has still the same number of students under its care, and report that provision for their support has been made by the several Classes of Synod. We find in all this reason for congratulation for the Synod; and commend the Classes to continue the good work. The total receipts of the Treasury, including the balance of \$352.50 on hand, at the time of the previous report, were \$1621.85. The expenditures were \$1345.75, leaving a balance in the Treasury of \$276.10.

The Board, in its Report, again calls the attention of Synod to the fact, that Zion's Classis does not co-operate with the Board in its beneficiary operations. The result of this is, that the Synod is not informed as to the number of beneficiaries maintained, and as to the amount of money given for this noble cause, within its bounds; and the Church at large is uninformed as to the work of the Synod in this direction. Your Committee has not been able to discover any good or sufficient reason for this action on the part of the Classis mentioned, or any reason why it should not labor in perfect harmony with the Board, through which the Synod performs its work of beneficiary education, and from which it should learn annually of the success and full extent of this work.

Upon this subject the Committee propose, for adoption, the following resolutions:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Synod, that it is the duty, under the Constitution, of every Classis within the bounds of the Synod to carry on its beneficiary education in connection with the Synod's Board of Education.

Resolved, That this action be communicated by the Stated Clerk of Synod to Zion's Classis, and that said Classis be, and is hereby, earnestly requested, for the reasons stated above, to co-operate with the Board of Education, and to carry on its beneficiary operations through said Board, in compliance with the Constitution of the Church.

From this Report, we learn also, that the post-graduate department in connection with Mercersburg College has been discontinued, in compliance with the recommendation of Synod, and the students have repaired to the Theological Seminary at Lancaster.

The Committee propose, for consideration, the following resolutions :

Resolved, That the Synod endorses the action of the Board of Education in paying \$135 to Mercersburg College, in behalf of one of the pastors of Virginia Classis, who was formerly a beneficiary student, under the care of one of the Western Classes.

Resolved, That the Synod heartily endorses the action of the Treasurer of the Board of Education in making quarterly payments to the Beneficiaries, and earnestly requests the Classes to sustain him in this plan, and, in furtherance of this, commends anew the cause of beneficiary education to the members of the Church.

Resolved, That the Synod has learned with pleasure of the payment of the bequest of \$200, made by Jacob Stoudenour, of Friend's Cove, Pa., and that the Treasurer of Synod is hereby instructed to pay the interest on the amount loaned to the Board of Trustees of Synod, when due, to the Treasurer of the Board of Education.

From the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary we learn, that six members were admitted to the course, at the beginning of the past year, and that seven graduated at the close of the Seminary year, in May, 1880.

The Report of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, and of the Treasurer of that Institution, show that the financial condition of the Seminary is growing better; and, in the language of the Board of Visitors, we desire to commend the Institution anew "to the prayers and pecuniary help of the Church, in order that it may become more and more a perennial source of blessings to the Church and to the kingdom of God at large."

Respectfully submitted.

J. A. HOFFHEINS,	} Committee.
F. J. SAUERBER,	
A. SHULENBERGER,	
W. H. XANDERS,	
J. H. LICHLITER,	
J. B. ZIMMERMAN,	
C. GLAZER.	

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College presented their annual report to Synod, which was received and is as follows, viz. :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, immediately after adjournment of Synod, and, in accordance with its instructions, appointed an agent, and sent him into the field. The agent continued his labors until the first of last August, and reported the following collections, as audited June 23d, 1880:—

Cash collections.....	\$3,208.84
Expenses	152.79
Net Cash.....	\$3,056.05
Obligations taken and unpaid June 23d.....	585.00
Total.....	\$3,641.05

The agent has collected since audit of June 23d, 1880, as follows:

Cash collections.....	\$139.00
Expenses.....	14.00
Net cash.....	\$125.00
Cash on previous obligations.....	85.00
Total.....	\$210.00

SUMMARY.

Net cash by audit June 23d, 1880.	\$3,056.05
“ since audit.....	210.00
	<hr/>
	\$3,266.05
Obligations still unpaid \$585.—\$85.....	500.00
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$3,766.05

At the same session, the Board voted to continue the same teachers at \$600.00 each for the year. By instruction from Synod, the Post Graduate Course was discontinued, and the students at once were dismissed. Under most serious difficulties the College continued its work through the year, closing June 23d, 1880. According to the catalogue, there were in attendance, in the College classes, eleven students; in the preparatory department, nineteen, making a total of *thirty*. One graduated, receiving the degree of A. B. The degree of A. M. was conferred in course upon the Class of 1877, and the honorary degree of A. M. upon Rev. Milton H. Sangree, pastor at Alexandria, Pa.

The Board at its regular annual session appointed a committee to make the changes in the charter necessary to meet the requirements of the action of Synod in reference to the election of members of the Board. The Board also elected the same teachers for another year, offering them as salary 800 dollars each, and resolved to put an agent into the field to secure a permanent endowment of 40,000 dollars, subscriptions payable on condition that the whole amount be raised within eighteen months from the time the obligation should be made. A committee was appointed to secure such agent. Due notice of election was sent to each one of the Professors. The President declined his election, consenting to remain, however, until the meeting of Synod. Professor George F. Mull declined his election, and his declination was accepted. The other Professors elect, accepted. The present Faculty of the College, therefore, consists of Professors Jacob B. Kerschner, Joseph H. Kerschner, and J. Scheffer.

The Board of Regents consider it proper to insert in this report a detailed statement of its present financial condition, that the Synod may have full data for any action it may, in its wisdom, see fit to take.

SUMMARY.

Notes in hand, with interest computed to November 1st, 1880.....	\$16,502.69
Other notes deemed non-collectible.....	850.00
Total.....	\$17,352.69

The indebtedness of Mercersburg College on September 15th, 1880:

To National Bank of Chambersburg, due November 15th, 1880.....	\$1,200.00
" Farmers' " Mercersburg " "	100.00
" " " " " October 25th, 1880.....	458.00

To King Mortgage with interest to November 1st, 1880.....	3,360.00
" E. E. Higbee, by audit.....	2,860.03
" Cook Judgment note.....	1,026.25
" H. Hanse note for balance on boarding.....	1,091.08
" Professor J. Scheffer, on salary.....	27.32
" " J. H. Kershner, on salary.....	608.90
" " J. B. Kerschner, " including note of \$350.....	927.21
" Levi Miller & Co.....	442.36
" A. B. Wingerd, by audit June 23, 1880.....	488.86
" Professor Geo. F. Mull, on salary.....	444.49
" Henry Zellers.....	300.00
" Jacob Heyser.....	587.00
" Sundries on running accounts not yet settled, about.....	376.00
Total.....	<u>\$14,297.50</u>

ASSETS OF MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

Notes in hand with interest to Nov. 1, 1880.....	\$16,502.69
Notes considered non collectible.....	850.00
Property held by deed with condition that it be used for educational ends.....	6,500.00
College library.....	400.00
Apparatus and furniture.....	500.00
Property held by lease.....	

Total.....\$23,902.69

Liabilities of Mercersburg College.....\$14,297.50

Balance of Assets over Liabilities..... \$9,605.19

In this balance, no account, it will be perceived, has been taken of the notes deemed non-collectible nor of the valuable property leased from the Synod of the United States. It should be mentioned here also, that there is a bequest, available at the death of the widow, amounting to 15,000 dollars, willed according to the language of the bequest "to the President, Treasurer, and Secretary of the College of the Reformed Church at Mercersburg or Eastern Pennsylvania."

The term of office of the following members of the Board of Regents expires by limitation at this time, viz: Rev. William A. Gring, John L. Reifsnider and William Heyser. Consequently, this Synod will have to elect three members of the Board, whose term of office shall expire October, 1883. Rev. E. E. Higbee has placed his resignation as member of the Board, in the hands of the Board, and when accepted by Synod, there must be an election of another member of the Board to fill his unexpired time of one year.

In concluding this report, the Board respectfully request the Synod to make the subject of the Institution the order of the day for Friday Afternoon, if possible.

Respectfully submitted by order of the Board.

E. E. HIGBEE, *President.*

On motion, the resignation of Rev. Dr. Higbee as a member of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College was accepted, and the Committee on Nominations was instructed to make the necessary nominations to fill the vacancy.

The consideration of the Report of the Board of Regents was made the order of the day for the opening of Friday Afternoon's session. And at the time appointed, the whole subject of Mercersburg College, including items 17, 18 and 19 of the Report on Minutes of Synod, was taken into earnest consideration. After some discussion it was deemed best to refer the whole matter to a special committee for consideration, consisting of one minister and one elder from each of the four Classes represented on the floor of Synod, to wit: Revs. J. O. Miller, W. C. Cremer, A. R. Kremer, J. C. Bowman, and Elders H. Wirt, A. R. Schnebly, J. T. Motter and J. Lantz. During the session of Monday Forenoon, this special committee presented their report to Synod, which was received and discussed for some time, and was pending when the hour for adjournment arrived. The report of this special committee was under consideration during the whole of Monday Afternoon's session, and occupied the session of Monday Evening until half-past nine o'clock, when the debt matter of the College was referred to another special committee, consisting of Revs. J. O. Miller, J. H. Sykes, S. S. Miller, and Elders J. P. Reed and I. H. Keefer. This special committee reported on Tuesday Morning, their report was considered at length, non-concurred in, and the following was adopted as a substitute, being the preamble in the report of the first special committee, and special preamble and resolutions as moved and adopted, viz.:

The Committee to whom was referred the Report of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College together with other items bearing on the same subject, report that they have given the subject submitted to them the most earnest consideration, but cannot find a satisfactory solution. We have found ourselves confronted with such grave and serious difficulties in this subject, which involves the very life or death of Mercersburg College, that we are at a loss to know what to do, or what to advise. And all we feel we can do, is to present to you facts, which a careful investigation has brought to our knowledge, and then submit the whole subject to your Reverend Body again to find some solution, if you can, to help the College out of its difficulties.

Your Committee are of the opinion, however, considering our connection with this College, that this Synod is not in any sense responsible for the liabilities of Mercersburg College, and yet we feel for the sake of the cause of education, and as Christian men, that something should be done, and that right speedily, to help them pay this indebtedness, and thus save this, the oldest seat of learning to the Church.

We have carefully considered the assets and liabilities of Mercersburg College, with the light which members of the Board of Regents, and other friends of the College could give us, and find that its financial condition is deplorable. The liabilities are reported to be \$14,297.50, whilst the assets, in the way of notes said to be collectible, provided the College be continued, are about one-half the indebtedness, and which would not be more than one-sixth if the College should cease. To these assets must be added the real estate purchased at \$6,500, so deduced, however, that it cannot be used for any but educational purposes; and, if sold at all, would bring but a trifle of its original cost. Besides this they have the College library and apparatus, valued at \$900. These liabilities and assets show that the College is insolvent.

We are informed that the mortgage, given by the Board of Regents of the College, covers also the lease on the Seminary property, given by the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, at a nominal rental per year.

WHEREAS, Mercersburg College has come to a crisis, in which, in the judgment of this Synod, it is necessary to settle up its liabilities and collect its assets; therefore,

Resolved, That the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College have power to settle up its indebtedness out of its assets, as far as they are available for this purpose, and, if possible, still preserve such property as shall be needed by this Synod to carry on its educational work in the future.

Resolved, That, if necessary in the judgment of the Board of Regents, they suspend for the present the work of the College, or at least have it conducted without further increasing its indebtedness.

Resolved, That, if in the judgment of the Board of Regents it be found necessary to collect additional funds to pay the liabilities of the College, they be empowered to send an agent into our pastoral charges to collect those funds, or to prepare such an appeal to the pastors to attend to this work, as in their judgment will seem best to secure this desirable end.

At the election for members of the different Boards of Synod, held during the session of Saturday Afternoon, Revs. Wm. M. Deatrick, J. S. Kieffer and J. W. Santee were elected members of the Board of Education for the term of three years. Col. G. B. Wiestling, Rev. A. J. Heller and Dr. M. A. Berry were chosen as members of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College for the term of three years, and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick for one year. Elder Israel Laucks was duly nominated for election by the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, as a member of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, at Lancaster, Pa., to fill the vacancy in said Board, occasioned by the death of Elder Wm. A. Wilt.

The following persons constitute the Board of Education, and the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, severally, at the present time, viz :

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick.....	3 years.....	October, 1883.
“ J. S. Kieffer.....	3 “	“ 1883.
“ J. W. Santee.....	3 “	“ 1883.
“ Wm. Goodrich.....	2 “	“ 1882.
“ A. J. Heller.....	2 “	“ 1882.
Elder J. Heyser.....	2 “	“ 1882.
Rev. I. G. Brown.....	1 year.....	“ 1881.
“ Wm. C. Cremer.....	1 “	“ 1881.
“ S. N. Callender.....	1 “	“ 1881.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Col. G. B. Wiestling.....	3 years.....	October, 1883.
Rev. A. J. Heller.....	3 “	“ 1883.

Dr. M. A. Berry.....	3 years.....	October, 1883.
Elder A. R. Schnebly.....	2 "	" 1882.
" Louis Markell.....	2 "	" 1882.
E. J. Bonbrake, Esq.....	2 "	" 1882.
Rev. J. S. Kieffer.....	1 year.....	" 1881.
" D. M. Whitmore.....	1 "	" 1881.
" Wm. M. Deatrick.....	1 "	" 1881.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions were laid before Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Missions.

The Standing Committee on Missions reported during the session of Friday afternoon. The report was received, ordered to be taken up item by item for adoption, was amended, adopted as a whole, and will be found subjoined in its proper place. These several reports are as follows :

I. REPORT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS:

To the Synod of Pittsburgh :

*Fathers and Brethren :—*We herewith transmit to your reverend body the annual reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States. The reports contain in brief all the information that is necessary for us at this time to communicate. We cannot but express our gratitude to Almighty God, and congratulate the Church on the measure of success that has attended the missionary work, and the enlarged gifts of our people to benevolence during the year that has just closed. Our people have contributed, during this year, double the amount they gave to missions last year, namely, \$15,000. And whilst this is but a small amount as compared to our resources, it is still a decided advance. We should take courage from this fact, and press the work with still greater vigor in the future.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *Pres.*

W. H. H. SNYDER, *Sec.*
York, Oct. 9, 1880.

II. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, to the Synod of Pittsburgh, and to the Synod of the Potomac.

RESPECTED BRETHREN :—It is with gratitude to God that the Superintendent of Missions presents this his annual report of the condition

and prospects of the missions over which he, in connection with the Board, has had the oversight for the last three years. During the past year, this particular department of the life and activity of the Church has been more than usually blest by its great Head; for which it becomes us to humble ourselves, and render thanks to the Father of lights, the giver of every good and perfect gift.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Grace Church, Easton.—Members, 75. Baptisms, 5. Additions, 7. S. S. scholars, 95. Cost of property, about \$3,000. Reduction of the debt \$700, of which \$380 was paid by the mother church at Easton. Benevolence, \$29.23. Local objects, \$800. Some 15 or 16 church papers are read. Under care of the Board, 4 years. Attendance improving. Appropriation last year by Classis, \$200; by the Board, \$150. As the appropriation to this mission is fixed by the coming Classis, the Board declines to specify any appropriation for the coming year. Pastor, D. Y. Heisler.

Catasauqua.—Members, 136; last year, 90. Baptisms, 7. S. S. scholars, 160. Benevolence, \$34.05. Local objects, \$844. Under the care of the Board since 1873. During the past year, this mission succeeded in redeeming its church building, which had been sold during the previous year by its creditors. It was secured for \$3075, which is less than half of its original cost. On making this purchase, the congregation paid \$475, so that the remaining indebtedness is only \$2600, which it is expected will be paid off gradually from year to year. The prospects of this mission are again encouraging; and pastor and people feel prompted to engage in the work committed to their hands with fresh courage and new faith. Appropriation last year, \$300. No appropriation made by the Board for the coming year for the reason assigned above. Pastor, J. J. Christ.

Christ Mission, East Allentown.—Members, 130; last year, 90. Baptisms, 16. Additions, 45. S. S. scholars, 180; last year, 157. Cost of property, \$1900; but worth much more. Reduction, about \$700. Benevolent and local objects, \$300. The Classis of Lehigh at its last meeting agreed to pay part of the remaining debt, amounting to \$600, in three yearly instalments of \$200 each, and the missionary agreed to relieve the Classis of the appropriation hitherto made. Attendance on divine service, good. The prospects of the mission are encouraging. Appropriation last year, \$300; for the present, \$100. Pastor, J. Fritzing.

St. John's, Reading.—Members, 360; last year, 305. Baptisms, 53; last year, 40. Additions, 163; last year, 29. S. S. scholars, 325. Attendance good at both German and English services. Cost of property, \$22,000. Debt, \$9,750. Reduction of indebtedness, \$300. Benevolence, \$80. Local objects, \$2,500. 22 subscribers for the church papers. The pastor has been preaching at Birdsboro, and with the approbation of Classis has organized a congregation at that place with 53 members. By the action of the Board, he is to serve this new mission for the time being. The large debt resting on the mission at Reading is a burden, which it finds difficult to bear; but thus far it has been able to maintain its credit. It enjoys the sympathy and confidence of the other churches in the city, and has been receiving help from them all along. Appropriation last year, \$250; this year, \$300. Pastor, J. W. Steinmetz.

St. John's, West Philadelphia.—Members, 90. Baptisms, 4. Additions, 17. S. S. scholars, 70. Cost of property, \$5,000; but worth more at the present time. Indebtedness, \$2,400. Reduction, \$1,000. Benevolence, \$12. Local objects, \$400. Attendance, good. The congregation enjoys generally the good will of the surrounding community. The pastor, under the direction of the superintendent, has been performing some missionary work in the city of Philadelphia and vicinity; which it is hoped will be attended with good results in the future. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, \$275. Pastor, J. S. Vandersloot.

Second Church, Harrisburg.—Members, 111. Baptisms, 8. Additions, 14. S. S. scholars, 282; last year, 220. Benevolence, \$72. Local objects, \$500. The cost of the church property, \$6,000; but it is worth more at the present time. A small debt was paid off during the year by the Ladies' Mite Society. The missionary society collected, during the present year, nearly twice as much as during the previous year. The church papers are read in the congregation, and the mission is making progress. Appropriation last year, \$250; this year, the same. Pastor, G. W. Snyder.

Zwingli Church, Harrisburg.—After the Rev. F. Fox withdrew from this mission, it was served for a while by the superintendent. In January last, he secured the services of the Rev. John G. Fritchey, who consented to devote a part of his time in a generous effort to save the mission from disintegration. Thus far, his labors have been blest. He has gathered the members together, and inspired them with fresh courage and hope. With much patience, he has succeeded in collecting, mostly from generous individuals in Harrisburg, enough money to pay off pressing claims in the bank and elsewhere, and so he has restored the financial credit of the congregation. The reduction of the indebtedness thus far is \$420. A short time ago the lecture-room of the church was rented by the school authorities of Harrisburg for school purposes. The income from this source will be sufficient to pay the interest of the debt still remaining on the church building, which is about \$1,200. The original cost of it was about \$8,000. The Sunday-school has been revived, and now numbers about 30 scholars. Members, 55. Baptized, 3. Some emigrants from Europe are reported as having arrived, who are members of our church. Amount collected for local objects, \$125. It is proper to add, that Mr. Fritchey undertook this work without any promise of appropriation from the Board,—simply from a disinterested zeal and love to build up the church of his fathers. The appropriation in former years was \$300. The prospects of this mission are again encouraging, and with the blessing of God will be made self-sustaining at no very distant day. Appropriation for the coming year, \$75. Pastor, J. G. Fritchey.

Columbia.—Members, 165. Baptisms, 23. Additions, 27. S. S. scholars, 200. Debt of church property, \$1,600, which was reduced \$200 during the year. Benevolence, \$92.04. Local objects, \$950. A canvass of the congregation last spring resulted in the addition of 21 new subscribers for the "Messenger." There is a mite society and a "workers' association" in the congregation through which small contributions are made monthly. It is needless to say that this mission is doing well. Appropriation last year, \$150; this year, \$125. Pastor, C. S. Gerhard.

Wilkesbarre.—Members at Wilkesbarre, 287. At Nanticoke, where there is a newly organized church, 60. In all, 347. Baptisms in both congregations, 112. Additions, at Wilkesbarre, 52; at Nanticoke, 60; in all, 112. S. S. scholars, 225. Attendance, good. Not many church papers as yet. Cost of Church property, \$13,000. Reduction, about \$3,000, of which the Classis of East Susquehanna paid \$800. Benevolence, \$35. Local objects, \$2,700. There is an effort in progress to provide for the remaining indebtedness on the church, which it is believed will be crowned with success. The missionary, after preaching for a while at Nanticoke, a town with a population of 3000 inhabitants, organized recently at that place a new congregation of 60 members. It is as yet without a church building. Another preaching point has been established at Plymouth, population 8000, midway between Wilkesbarre and Nanticoke, where twenty families—some belonging to the congregation at Wilkesbarre—during the year were organized into a church, and placed by Classis under the care of Rev. S. C. Meckel, who has thus far labored successfully, and with much self-denial, without missionary aid. This mission has been under the care of the Board since July, 1878; and promises to be self-supporting at no distant day. Its success thus far has gone beyond our expectations. Appropriation last year, \$400; this year, \$300. Pastor, F. K. Levan.

Lock Haven.—Two congregations. Members, 135. Baptisms, 6. Additions, 14. S. S. scholars, 80. Benevolence, \$25. Local objects, \$230. The church papers are taken to some extent. The missionary society is making gradual progress. Some improvement in the attendance. The last communion at Lock Haven was the largest in the history of the congregation. Cost of the church building, \$2,200; but it will be worth five or six times that amount when some improvements are made to it. Indebtedness, \$763. The mission enjoys the confidence of the community, and of its own members; and its prospects are much improved. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, \$300. Pastor, I. S. Stahr.

East Liberty and Wilkinsburg.—These two missions have been served by the present pastor for more than a year and a half, and as the times have improved, they have made a corresponding progress. They still labor under some difficulty on account of their indebtedness; but these have been alleviated to some extent during the past year, and prospects are more encouraging than they were a year ago. No statistics. Appropriation last year, \$550; this year, \$525. Pastor J. W. Knappenberger.

Orbisonia.—Three congregations. Members, 109. Baptisms, 7. Additions, 12. S. S. scholars, 80. Attendance, generally good. Benevolence averaging 54 cents per member. Local objects, \$560. A mission society is to be organized this fall. The "Messenger" circulates in about one-half the families. Cost of church property, \$1,200. Indebtedness, \$200, but provided for. Reduction of the indebtedness during the year, \$250. Since last spring, the missionary has been preaching at Broadtop city, where there are a few members of our church, and where a congregation may be organized in the future. Under the Board, 4 yrs. This mission covers a large territory, and promises well for the future. Appropriation last year, \$150; this year, \$112. Pastor, J. M. Schick.

Sulphur Springs, Bedford county.—Three congregations. Members, 155. Baptisms, 16. Additions, 13. Sunday-schools, 2. Attendance, good. Assessment of Classis, \$76, which will be paid. Church debt as yet unprovided for, \$170. Mission under the care of the Board 5 years. After the removal of the remaining debt—in a year or two—the mission will be self-sustaining. Appropriation last year, \$200; this year, \$200. Pastor, W. A. Gring.

Duncannon.—Congregations, 3. Members, 125. Baptisms, 13. Additions, 5. S. S. scholars, 150. Value of church property, \$2,500. Debts, none. Benevolence, \$100. Local objects, \$530. Church periodicals circulated and appreciated. Attendance, good and devout. The outlook encouraging. Appropriation last year, \$250; this year, \$225. Pastor, U. H. Heilman.

First Church, Allegheny City.—When we rendered our last report, this mission was beginning to show some signs of a new life; but unfortunately, the missionary, after laboring successfully for a few months, was called to take charge of another missionary field within the bounds of the Classis; and his withdrawal had a depressing effect upon the members. Last spring, the Rev. H. King was requested by the superintendent to supply it for a while. Twenty-one old members petitioned Classis to be organized into a new congregation, and the Council elected Mr. King to labor as missionary for one year with an appropriation of \$600; the amount designated by the Pittsburgh Board of Missions. The missionary has been diligent in gathering in the old members, and he has been to a certain extent successful; but it will require years of hard work and much prayer and self-sacrifice to restore this mission to the position which it once occupied. It has been one of the most unfortunate of all our missions. Still it is not hopeless, having a small nucleus of faithful members, who are willing to labor and pray for the increase of Zion. They no longer own their chapel; but have the use of it for a small rental. As a field for missionary work, we regard Allegheny City as a very promising one. Appropriation \$600. Pastor, Hiram King.

Shenandoah City.—No statistics have been received from this mission. We presume they do not differ much from those given in last report. The pastor has been absent in Europe during a part of the summer. His place was filled by the Rev. James A. Schultz during his absence. Appropriation last year, \$300; for the coming year, the same. Pastor, J. G. Neff.

Johnstown.—This mission has been under the care of the Board since July last. For the year previous, it was served by the Rev. W. H. Bates without an appropriation under the direction of the Superintendent. During the year, ground was purchased and a new chapel erected for the mission, in which it was assisted by the Westmoreland Classis and liberal citizens of Johnstown, the latter having given thus far over \$600. Its cost will be something over two thousand dollars, (\$2,000). It will be dedicated sometime in October, although it is used now for divine service. It is thought it will have little or no debt after it is dedicated. The number of members is between 50 and 60. Appropriation, \$500. Pastor, W. H. Bates.

St. Luke's, Lancaster.—This mission became vacant by the withdrawal of its efficient pastor, Rev. J. F. Wiant, on the 1st of April last,

and was supplied by the Superintendent until the 1st of July, when the Rev. Wm. F. Lichliter, at the request of the Board, took charge of it. The effort to erect a house of worship, referred to in our last report, was successful; and the new chapel was dedicated to the service of the triune God last winter. The ground on which it stands—valued at \$600—was the free gift of Mr. John C. Hager, a member of the Lutheran church; and its cost was \$2,200, on which there is still a small debt, most of which however is covered by subscriptions which will yet be paid. The erection of a chapel has placed this mission upon a permanent foundation; and its future success among the poor on the outskirts of the city seems to be now only a matter of time. Mr. Lichliter was kindly received by the mission and its friends in Lancaster, and although his work is attended with difficulties, he has the promise that if he cast his bread upon the waters, it shall be seen after many days. The Sunday-school, composed principally of the children of the poor, is in a prosperous condition. It numbers at present 130 scholars; 23 having been added within the last few months. Members, 37. Additions, 15. Baptisms, 13. Benevolence, \$10. For local objects, in addition to what was raised for the building of the church, several hundred dollars, the most of which came from the members of the other churches. The attendance during the summer has not been what might be desired; but it is believed that this will improve during the winter. Appropriation last year, \$400; this year, \$300. Pastor, W. F. Lichliter.

Overton, Bradford county.—Congregations, 3. Members, 170. Baptisms, 16. S. S. scholars, 125. Attendance, good and improving. Cost of property, about \$900. The pastor has to live to some extent on his own private resources. Benevolence, \$25.54. Local objects, \$375. A few periodicals of the church are taken. During the year, a new congregation was organized at Dushore, out of members belonging to several congregations in the neighborhood—so-called Union churches. It is doing well. The pastor has a large catechetical class, which he is preparing for confirmation. He has also established services at Bernice, some 5 or 6 miles from Dushore, with a population of 1000, who are without any organized congregation; the prospects are good. The missionary has been in this field a little over one year. Appropriation last year, \$150; this year, \$150. Pastor, Phaon S. Kohler.

Latrobe.—Members, 70. Baptisms, 5. Additions, 9. Dismissions, 11. S. S. scholars, 55. Cost of the church property, \$7,200; debt \$1,800. No reduction. Missionary society and a good work society. The mission has been peaceful during the present pastorate, and the strife of former years in a measure has passed away. The pastor, G. D. Gurley, has recently withdrawn on account of his health; which is a matter of regret. He goes away with the kind wishes of the Board and of his congregation, with a hope that he will soon find a larger sphere of usefulness in some other part of the church. The congregation expects soon to secure another pastor; and the understanding is that he will devote a part of his time to preaching at some neighboring points. Appropriation last year, \$200; this year, \$200. Vacant.

Trinity Church, York county.—Members, 50. Additions, 7. Baptisms, 9. S. S. scholars, 80. Cost of property, \$700. Amount collected for local purposes, \$276. The missionary preached regularly

in Trinity chapel, in York—without an organized congregation. At Glen Rock there is a congregation which is hopeful; but it has no church building of its own. Owing to the difficulties in the congregation at New Freedom, the missionary was advised to cease preaching at this place last spring. He also ceased to preach at another point. When this mission was placed under the care of the Board, it was thought that it would not need any help, but the pastor has not received an adequate support; and its prospects are not as favorable as they were a year ago. Pastor, W. H. Xanders.

Sharon, Mercer county.—No statistics are given from this mission. The pastor resigned during the year, but continues to preach for the congregation until a suitable person can be secured to take his place. Its condition is the same as given in our last report. Appropriation last year, \$100. Vacant.

New Castle, Lawrence county.—This is a new mission. It was fostered by a committee of Allegheny Classis during the last fall and winter. By the request of the Board of Missions of the Pittsburgh Synod, it was placed last spring under the care of the parent Board; and at the same time, the present missionary was commissioned to take charge of it. At the organization of the congregation in January last, there were 18 members, to which 23 have since been added. S. S. scholars, 44. The congregation has as yet no chapel, and is under the necessity of worshipping in a public hall for the present. New Castle is a large and growing town, and the field is represented to us as an interesting and promising one for missionary labor. Appropriation, \$450. Pastor, J. M. Souder.

Tionesta, Venango county.—At the request of Clarion Classis, and of the Pittsburgh Board, a new mission will be established at Tionesta as soon as a missionary can be secured, with an appropriation of \$250. It has been placed under the care of the Board.

VIRGINIA.

Winchester.—This mission became vacant sometime in February last by the withdrawal of Rev. C. G. Fisher, for reasons which were satisfactory to the Board. Since that time, two efforts were made to secure a pastor which were not successful. It is thought that the third effort, which is now being made, will be attended with better results. With the exception of preaching by the candidates and the Superintendent who visited the mission during the summer, it has been without divine service since the former missionary left. We found the congregation in a good condition; but suffering, to some extent, from the want of a regular pastor. We refer the Board to the statistics of last year, as, under the circumstances, we were not able to receive any complete returns. Appropriation last year, \$250. Vacant.

Mint Spring Mission, Augusta county.—This mission grew out of the Middle Brook mission, which became self-sustaining last year. The missionary reports, that a new church is in process of erection at Mint Spring, and that it is to be dedicated during the present month. Several acres of ground were secured, for which he and his brother made themselves responsible. After this congregation is established, it is expected to serve as a centre of missionary operations for other places, which the missionary has visited from time to time. He refers to

Staunton and other places, where something could be done, if the Board would send a suitable person into the field. No statistics. Appropriation last year, \$150; this year, \$150. Pastor, A. J. Whitmore.

DELAWARE.

St. John's, Wyoming, Kent county.—Members, 92. Baptisms, 9. S. S. scholars, 80. Additions, 12. The debt, \$250, was canceled during the past year, which gives much joy to the mission. Benevolence, \$66. Of this, \$27 was contributed for a peace offering. Local objects, \$614. The mission is making encouraging progress. Under the care of the Board, 5 years. It has been active in encouraging the neighboring missions on the Eastern shore of Maryland both with its sympathy and its means. Appropriation last year, \$275; this year, \$250. Pastor, E. H. Dieffenbacher.

MARYLAND.

Cumberland.—Members, 150. Baptisms, 82. Additions, 16. S. S. scholars, 100. Cost of Church property, \$5,500; indebtedness, \$1,500. Benevolence, \$30. Local objects, \$700. The Church festivals are devoutly observed, and prove to be seasons of refreshing and revival from the presence of the Lord. Several families removed from the congregation; but their place is filled by a number of emigrants from Hessen and Lippe Detmold, who, on their arrival, immediately handed in the recommendations of their pastors in Germany to the pastors of the Reformed Church in North America. The missionary has preached at various points in the neighborhood, where he found members of our Church, who, however, can be better attended to by neighboring ministers. The papers of the Church are circulated in the congregation. The pastor has been in this field six years, during which time he confirmed 112 persons and baptized 82. The progress is slow but sure. Appropriation last year, \$250; this year, \$200. Pastor, F. R. Schwedes.

Ridgely, Caroline County. Members, 69. Baptisms, 7. Additions, 8. Benevolence, \$624. Local objects, several hundred dollars. The corner-stone of the new church at Ridgely was laid last spring. For want of means the church has not been finished; but the congregation expect to complete it before the close of the present year, with probably little or no debt. Last April the missionary organized a new congregation in Queen Ann County. He is under the necessity of holding his services—once in four weeks—in private houses; but the members have subscribed in all \$200 for a new chapel; and expect to begin building it as soon as they can find a suitable location. In the month of August the missionary visited Talbot County and found in the vicinity of Easton some twelve or fifteen members of our Church from eastern Pennsylvania, who are engaged in building a Union church. He baptized their children, and expects to preach at this point regularly; to commence a catechetical class, and organize the members into a congregation. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, \$325. Pastor, Joseph Hannabery.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington.—On the withdrawal of Dr. Russell from this mission last October, it devolved on the Superintendent to take charge of it until a successor could be secured. He visited it from time to time, and called in ministerial brethren to assist him in filling the pulpit. This arrangement in the peculiar circumstances of the congregation was regarded

as the best that could be made, and was very satisfactory to the members generally. It became evident, however, that it could not be continued long, and as soon as the way seemed to be open a missionary was secured to take charge of the field. He entered upon his duties about the beginning of July; and has served with acceptance to the congregation. During last spring a committee of Maryland Classis, who had the matter in charge, purchased ground for a new chapel in an eligible place—72 feet in front by 100 feet deep, at 45 cts. per. square foot. The whole cost was \$3,240, on which \$810 were paid at the time of the purchase. The balance, \$2,430, as it falls due is to be paid in four semi-annual instalments; and is all provided for by assessment made by the different Synods. This gave the mission a new impulse. As soon as a chapel of moderate cost can be put up, the mission will be placed on a permanent basis. It deserves the prayers and sympathies of the whole Church. It is now very desirable that the amounts assessed on the different charges of the Church for this object should be paid without delay. Promptness in this direction will save the Church a great deal of money, as well as promote the growth and success of the mission. Appropriation, last year \$1200, this year, \$600. Pastor, Charles F. Sontag.

NEW YORK.

New York City.—By authority of the Board, Rev. F. Fox, during last fall and winter, acted as agent mostly in the eastern part of Pennsylvania in collecting funds for missionary purposes on the Pacific coast, in which he met with a reasonable degree of success. Instead of returning to California, as he had intended to do, he was induced to undertake the work of starting a new mission among the Germans in New York City; and our Board made a proposition to the Board of Missions of the Eastern German Synod to assist in making up an appropriation for his support, if they would agree to take the mission under their charge and contribute for its support. The proposition was agreed to; and Rev. Fox has been in the field since last April. He reports that his prospects are encouraging. The appropriation by this Board is \$200.

KANSAS.

Emporia.—As this mission required a person who could devote all his time to the work, the Rev. J. G. Shoemaker was secured to take charge of it; and he entered upon his duties on the 1st of November last. On the 1st of December, he organized a congregation of 31 members, to which a number have since been added. With the permission of the Board, the missionary visited his former congregations in Centre and other counties, for the purpose of collecting funds to pay for the new church at Emporia, as something immediately necessary for the success of the mission. In this, he was successful beyond our most sanguine expectations. In all he raised over one thousand dollars. The church, when finished, will cost about \$2,300. Of this amount, something over \$600 are still lacking, which will be provided for in some other way. The members of the church generally give as much as their limited means justify. Thus far, the pastor received only a small support from the congregation, with a small appropriation from the Board; and he has been under the necessity of exercising great self-denial. Benevolence, \$10. Local objects, \$500.

The missionary has been preaching at a point some eighteen miles north of Emporia, where 25 members have agreed to be organized into

a congregation this fall. When once organized, it will form a good nucleus for a new mission. As soon as a suitable locality is agreed on, an effort will be made for the erection of a church. There are other points in the neighborhood of Emporia, which will be visited as soon as time will permit.

In accordance with the directions of the Board, Mr. Shoemaker lately visited Stockton, in Rooks county, and other places in that section of the State. Here the people had suffered much from the failure of their crops for the last two years; yet the missionary found a number of members of the Reformed Church anxious to have a minister placed over them. He preached for them in their school-houses, and expects to visit them again.

In order to facilitate the exploration of the State and to establish missions where needed, Mr. Shoemaker, at a late meeting of the Board, was appointed superintendent of missions for the State. He will retain his connection with the congregation at Emporia, and is to have a young man as an assistant to take charge of his congregation during his absence, and to assist him in his work; for whom an appropriation is to be made by the Board. It is believed that this arrangement will be productive of good and permanent results. It is proper here to add, that the Board of Missions of the Synod of Ohio has also a number of missions of the State of Kansas, and that those established by our Board will not interfere in any way with those of the Ohio Board, but tend rather to assist and strengthen them. Appropriations last year \$300; the coming year, \$400. Pastor, J. G. Shoemaker.

CALIFORNIA.

Napa.—During the course of the past year, the Rev. J. H. Krueger, with the consent of the Board, withdrew from this mission, and sought another field of usefulness in the East. Several efforts have been made to secure a suitable person to take his place; but thus far without success. There are, however, some prospects, that the vacancy will be filled at no distant day. The mission, since it lost its pastor, has been under the supervision and care of the Classis of San Francisco. Appropriation last year, \$200.

Alameda.—This mission, in the neighborhood of San Francisco, has been without a pastor for a part of the year just closed. The missionary, who was placed over it more than a year ago, was not deemed a suitable person for the field, and the Classis, under a sense of duty, and with a feeling of deep regret, found it necessary to request him to withdraw before the end of the year. The mission has been cherished by the Classis and cared for, as far as possible, by the pastor of the church at San Francisco, the Rev. Julius Fuendeling. The Board decided to send another missionary to labor at Alameda and San Francisco as soon as a suitable person can be found, with an appropriation of \$250.

OREGON.

Portland.—Members, 110. Baptisms, 11. S. S. scholars, 60. Cost of property, \$7,200; but its value is much greater; local objects, \$800. A debt has been incurred for improvement in the church and on the street of \$365. A goodly number of church papers is taken. A missionary society is soon to be organized. The mission is making encouraging progress, and its pastor expects to declare it self-supporting by the end of the coming year. It has been under the care of the

Board six years, and the sixth anniversary of its existence was celebrated in the month of September amidst general rejoicing. The pastor suffers opposition and even persecution from without; but he is sustained by his people, and the work of the Lord continues to go on. Portland has a population of 21,000 inhabitants. Six years ago it had 12,000; at no distant day it will be the great city of the North Pacific coast, like Philadelphia or Baltimore in the East.

The missionary at Portland has been preaching at various other points in the State; at Cornelius, where there is a congregation of eighteen members; at Sandy, where twelve members are waiting to be organized into a church, and at Sandy Ridge, and at other points. I this kind of work he has been assisted by Rev. Lange of the mission at Canby. It is plain that at least one or more missionaries should be sent into this field as soon as possible; and for this purpose the Board made an appropriation of \$150. Appropriation last year, \$300; for the coming year, \$200. Pastor, John Gantenbein.

Salem.—Two congregations; one at Salem, the other at Waldo Hills. The one at Salem is still under the necessity of worshipping in a hall, which is a serious drawback to the growth and progress of the congregation. The Board regrets exceedingly that it has not been in a condition to give it any help in its efforts to supply itself with a suitable house of worship. It is earnestly hoped that a church building fund may soon be created for the purpose of giving help to this and other struggling missions in erecting chapels or churches. The Waldo Hills congregation has succeeded in putting up a small church, in which, although not yet quite finished, it has been worshipping. The cost of the church thus far is between \$500 and \$600. No debt has been contracted. The missionary has been preaching occasionally at other points; but much of his time has been occupied in collecting the funds to pay for the new church. Thus he has been prevented from making explorations in the regions beyond; such exploration is very desirable, and would be productive of good results. Membership, 45. The missionary reports that his little flock maintain their courage, and are faithful in attendance at the worship of the sanctuary. Appropriation last year, \$250; this year, the same. Pastor, J. Muehlhaupt.

Canby, Clackamas County.—One congregation, German. Members, 27. Baptisms, 5. Addition, 6. S. S. scholars, 27. A church has been put up at Meridian during the past year, costing, thus far, \$350. It has some debt resting upon it. The Board appropriated \$100 to assist in its erection, for which both the pastor and members express their warmest gratitude, for the help thus extended to them in their time of need. The church is not yet finished, and as the members are poor, they have a strong claim upon the brethren for further help. It is hoped that benevolent persons in the Church may extend to this mission a friendly hand, and do something to assist it in building its humble sanctuary, which is to it as precious as the most stately church is to those more highly favored. The missionary travels far and wide, over a large extent of territory. Appropriation last year, \$200; this year, the same. Pastor, Julius Lange.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Walla Walla.—No report from this mission. The missionary was urged by Classis to transfer his labors to the promising fields in Oregon; but he has not seen his way clear to withdraw from his present field.

hoping that he will yet overcome the difficulties in his way, and succeed in building up a Reformed church at Walla Walla. Appropriation last year, \$200; this year, the same. Pastor, George Maechtersheimer.

Ursinus Union.—In accordance with the instruction of the Synod of the United States last year, we embody the report of the missionary operations of the Ursinus Union, a copy of which accompanies this report.

The Rev. F. W. Kremer, D. D., Treasurer, reports, that the amount of funds, under the direction of Ursinus Union, received since the last meeting of the old Synod, is \$988.52. A part of this was sent to the treasury of the Board of Missions of the Synod of Ohio, and the balance appropriated to different missionary points in the east.

SUMMARY.

Number of missions.....	38
Members	3,408
Additions during the year.....	655
Baptisms during the year.....	480
Sunday-School scholars.....	3,309
Amount col. for benev. during the year.....	\$958
For local objects.....	\$21,478

Value of church property is somewhat greater than last year; and the indebtedness is somewhat smaller.

MISSIONARY PAPER.

The matter of publishing a missionary paper has been considered from time to time by the Board, and the necessity of such help for the spread of missionary intelligence, for the awakening of a missionary spirit, and for the increase of liberality in the Church, has been sensibly felt for a long time. The way, however, did not seem open for such an undertaking until the present year. Three numbers of the paper have already appeared. It is published monthly. Price of subscription, 50 cents per year. It is conducted by the Superintendent of missions, without any additional expense to the Board. Its title is "Reformed Missionary Herald." All its articles are intended to have a bearing on the cause of missions. Thus far it has been well received. The prospects at present are, that it will cover expenses and leave a balance of profit, which is to be devoted to missions. If it comes to be well patronized in our churches, its margin of profit will be considerable.

NEW FIELDS.

Hitherto, for want of necessary means, the Board has not been able to occupy many of the new and interesting fields, which have presented themselves as worthy of our attention. But we believe, that the time has arrived when the benevolence and increasing liberality of the Church will justify us in going forward and enlarging the sphere of our missionary operations. The Board accordingly, at its late meeting, agreed to appropriate \$1,000 during the coming year for the location of new missions in Kansas, Nebraska and Colorado, as soon as suitable locations are decided on, and proper men can be secured to fill them. As already said, two or more missionaries are to be sent to the Pacific Coast, as soon as Providence points out to us the men that are adapted

for this kind of work. It is further believed, that flourishing missions may be established in a number of our large cities, such as Philadelphia, New York, Boston, and other places, also at various points in the Southern States. The spirit of missions is beginning to grow and increase in the Classis of North Carolina, and its destitute places call loudly for our assistance. May God grant that, as a Church, we may not be deaf to the many calls of our children, who cry to us for the bread of life !

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

From the treasurer's report, it will be seen, that the contributions of the churches for the support of our missions during the past year have been somewhere between \$15,000 and \$16,000. The indebtedness for moneys borrowed in former years to carry forward the operations of the Board, something over \$1,200, is all paid off; and the amount due missionaries for salary is smaller, considerably, than it has been at the end of previous years. On the first of October, this amount was \$2,000, with about \$1,000 in the treasury. For the coming year the Board will need \$15,000, in order to meet the current expenses; for which we suggest that the different Synods concerned be requested to take measures for raising the following sums :

The Synod of the United States.....	\$ 8,500
The Synod of the Potomac.....	\$ 3,750
The Synod of Pittsburgh.....	\$ 2,750
* * * * *	*

In concluding this report, we must congratulate the reverend Synods on the measure of prosperity which has crowned our missionary labors during the past year. Missionary societies have sprung up in all directions. Missionary festivals have been held with good effect; and our ministers have preached with more than usual earnestness on the subject of missions. The contributions are double in amount of what was reported last year; and in considerable excess of what has been given during any previous year of our history as a Church. From the summary already given, it will also appear, that the number of members in our missions, baptisms, additions, Sunday-school scholars, and the amounts given for benevolent and local objects are also in excess of what was reported during previous years; so that whilst our churches have increased their gifts, the blessing of God has also, at the same time, rested upon the labors of our missionaries. For all this, we have great reason to be thankful to Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, who has visited His plantation, and given us the precious rains of His grace.

Many things have conspired in bringing about these results; the chief of which, no doubt, is the peace sentiment which is coming to prevail more and more in our churches. This had much to do in swelling our contributions to the amount which has been reported, by promoting the peace offerings. What is required of us in these circumstances seems to be plain and simple; and that is, that we should just continue in the course upon which the Chief Shepherd has brought us. Having led us thus far, He will continue to lead us still further, and enable us to achieve still greater results for His own glory. We should be vigilant, more so in the future than in the past, lest our work, which now has made such an auspicious beginning, should be marred during the coming year, and suffer from a relapse into the errors and mistakes of the past. To avoid everything of the nature of a reaction, the con-

science of the Church should be kept alive. Our preaching should be more earnest, with a constant bearing on the spread of the kingdom of God. Earnest prayer should also be offered up continually, and at stated times, also, that, whilst we are planting and watering, God may give us a still more plentiful increase; and to His great name, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, shall be all the honor and glory, as it was in the beginning, as it is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL, *Superintendent.*

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 9, 1880.

III. REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

In submitting my annual Report, it affords me sincere gratification to state, that the finances of the Board are in a much more favorable condition than they were last year. Nearly every section of the Church seems to have awakened from the culpable lethargy which formerly prevailed, and responded, with commendable liberality, to the appeals made for means to carry on the great work of Missions.

By comparing the present with my last year's Report, it will be seen that the total contributions amount to nearly double what they were the previous year :

Synod of the United States.

Classis of Philadelphia.....	\$413.94	
" Tobickon.....	552.96	
" Goshenhoppen.....	1,164.40	
" East Pennsylvania.....	1,016.50	
" Lebanon.....	1,060.10	
" Lancaster.....	970.78	
" East Susquehanna.....	332.28	
" West Susquehanna.....	736.71	
Total from the Synod of the United States.....	————	\$6,247.67

Synod of the Potomac.

Classis of Zion.....	\$1,031.33	
" Maryland.....	1,578.85	
" Mercersburg.....	1,543.78	
" Virginia.....	305.45	
" San Francisco.....	50.00	
" North Carolina.....	3.25	
Total from the Synod of the Potomac.....	————	\$4,512.66

Synod of Pittsburgh.

Classis of Saint Paul.....	\$ 36.39	
" Somerset.....	40.00	
From Treasurer of Synod.....	2,705.00	
Total from the Synod of Pittsburgh.....	————	\$2,781.39
Carried over.....	.....	\$13,541.72

Amount brought over.....	\$13,541.72
<i>Miscellaneous Sources.</i>	
Collected by Rev. F. Fox for Missions on Pacific Coast...	\$526.76
Interest on Loans and Legacies.....	150.00
Collection at Synod of Lebanon.....	22.29
Received of Dr. J. H. Good, Assessment of General Synod on Synod of Ohio, to pay indebtedness to Geo. Gelbach, Esq., who donated the same to the Board.....	175.00
From sundry sources, loans (since paid), etc.....	667.88
Balance in Treasury, Sept. 2, 1879.....	128.11
	<hr/> \$1,670.04
Total from all sources.....	\$15,211.76

DISBURSEMENTS.

Paid orders of the Board during year.....	\$14,015.06
Paid Treasurer of Iowa Classis.....	232.84
Balance in the Treasury.....	963.86
	<hr/> \$15,211.76

In addition to the above-named contributions, I received from sundry sources during the year, the sum of \$319.40 for the erection of a chapel in Washington City, D. C.

The total amount of Peace-offerings during the year, included in the foregoing statement, was \$1,358.54. The net amount contributed by the Church during the synodical year for Missions and Washington City Chapel is \$14,444.05.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.*

HARRISBURG, Oct. 11, 1880.

The undersigned, appointed a committee to audit the foregoing account of Wm. H. Seibert, Treasurer of the Board of Home Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully report, that they have attended to said duty and find a balance of nine hundred and sixty-three dollars and eighty-six cents in the Treasurer's hands at this date, October 11, 1880.

W. H. H. SNYDER.
D. W. GROSS.

IV. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions would respectfully present the following as their report:

There have been referred to us for consideration the Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, an overture from Revs. C. Cort and S. Long, of Iowa Classis, the special claims of the Virginia Valley upon the Board, and the announcement of the death of Elder Wm. A. Wilt, a member of this Board.

From the Missionary report of the Board we learn, with pleasure, that the work has been carried forward, during the year, with commendable zeal and encouraging success. We have cause for gratitude to the Great Head of the Church for the blessings vouchsafed to this department of labor, in the extension of His kingdom in the world. There are thirty-eight missions under the care of the Board. Of this number ten are within the territory of this Synod.

We have the gratifying intelligence, that the contributions for missions, during the past year, are double that of last year, and in excess of the contributions of any previous year in our history as a Church, amounting to over \$15,000.00. This increase is to be credited, in part, to the peace sentiment that has come to prevail, and in part, also, to the organization of auxiliary missionary societies in some of our congregations, which are productive of great good. We learn with pleasure, also, of the good prospects of the Reformed Missionary Herald, and trust it will prove an efficient agent in promoting this good cause.

In view of the large and extending field, the earnest appeals for help coming up from many directions, and the self-denying devotion of the missionaries themselves, it behooves us as a Synod to give this cause our most earnest co-operation with our prayers and alms. Therefore,

Resolved, That this Synod assumes the \$3,750.00 suggested by the Board as our portion of the \$15,000.00 needed to carry forward the work now in hand, and that it be apportioned as follows: Maryland Classis, \$1,150.00; Zion's Classis, \$1,150.00; Mercersburg Classis, \$1,100.00; Virginia Classis, \$300.00; North Carolina Classis, \$100.00; San Francisco Classis, \$50.00; and Portland-Oregon Classis, \$25.00. Making \$3,875.00.

Resolved, That we have heard with pleasure of the forward movement at Washington, D. C., in the purchase of a suitable lot for the erection of a Chapel, and it is hereby urged upon the several Classes and pastoral charges of this Synod, that immediate steps be taken to raise and pay the several amounts apportioned on them for this purpose.

Resolved, That this Synod reiterate its action as touching the work of missions in the Valley of Virginia, and that the representatives of this Synod in the Board of Missions be directed to earnestly and urgently present these claims before the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions.

As to the communications from Rev. C. Cort, President of the Board of Missions, of Iowa Classis, and Rev. S. C. Long, Corresponding Secretary of said Classis, in reference to the resolution at the Synod of York, Pa., in 1876, requesting the Board of Missions to appropriate \$500.00 for missions in Iowa Classis, and the resolution of the Synod of Hagerstown in 1878, requesting the pastors to take special collections for the payment of the "implied obligation," your committee recommend the adoption of the following as a statement of the facts in the case, viz:

At the Synod of York, Pa., in 1876, the Board of Missions in its annual report stated the amount that would be necessary to carry forward the work then in hand, during the current year, and asked this Synod to assume and provide for the raising of \$3,500.00 of said amount, which was done and apportioned among the several Classes. After this had been done, and without making provision for the raising of any additional amount, the Synod was induced by resolution to instruct the Board to appropriate of the \$3,500.00, necessary to carry forward the work then in hand, and to meet the obligations already assumed, \$500.00 for Iowa Classis, and \$500.00 for Virginia Classis. This instruction the Board did not, and could not, heed, so long as prior obligations were binding upon it, and without additional funds specially provided.

At the subsequent Synod of Hagerstown, in 1878, this subject was again before us by an overture from Rev. C. Cort, of Iowa Classis, and then a resolution was passed requesting all the pastors to take up special collections for the payment of the "implied obligations." This, it would seem, was only partially done, probably because of other and imperative claims.

These communications, therefore, are in error, when the action of this Synod in the case is construed to mean "pledges" in the ordinary sense of said term. We have regarded the claims of our Mission Board as prior to all others. We recognize Iowa Classis as comprising promising missionary terri-

tory, and we are in sympathy with the self-denying efforts of the brethren in that Classis to push forward the cause of missions; therefore,

Resolved, That we regard the Iowa field as a most hopeful field of missionary activity for the Reformed Church; and that we earnestly recommend to all the pastoral charges belonging to this Synod to make exertions in raising missionary funds to exceed the amounts respectively apportioned to them, in order that there may be surplus funds to send to expend in supporting missions in that quarter.

Resolved, That, because of obligations already assumed, we cannot make a definite appropriation for their relief.

Resolved, That this Synod requests the Classes to give special attention to the claims of missions, to urge the importance of Systematic Benevolence, the further introduction of Missionary Societies in congregations and Sunday-schools, the holding of missionary festivals, and the adoption of such measures as will best secure the largest amount of money and most widely extend our missionary operations.

Resolved, That this Synod has heard with profound regret of the death of Elder William A. Wilt, of York, Pa., who died Sept. 5th, 1880, after a short illness—a man of ripe, Christian character, and of great moral worth—a devoted member of the Church, and an efficient member of the Board of Missions since the organization of this Synod. While we mourn his loss to us, we rejoice in the assurance that he died in the faith and has entered upon his reward, and his works do follow him.

Respectfully submitted.

E. R. ESCHBACH,	} Committee.
W. K. ZIEBER,	
S. F. LAURY,	
CHAS. F. SONTAG,	
C. A. SHULTZ,	
SAM'L DUTROW.	
SAM'L D. PIPER.	

An interesting missionary meeting was held on Saturday evening, at which a collection, amounting to \$58.68, was lifted for the benefit of the Mint Spring Mission, in Augusta county, Va.

By reference to the Report of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, it will be seen that the Classes comprising the Synod of the Potomac contributed, during the past Synodical year, more than one thousand dollars in excess of the sum assigned to the Synod to be raised during the year.

The following resolution was adopted, viz :

Resolved, That the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions be and is hereby requested to prepare a plan or plans, and specifications for the building of chapels by missionary congregations under its charge.

At the election for members of the different Boards, held during the session of Saturday Afternoon, Revs. E. R. Eschbach and E. N. Kremer were elected as members of the Synodic Board of Missions for the term of four years, and Elder S. Dutrow for two years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. E. R. Eschbach,	4 years,	October, 1884.
" E. N. Kremer,	4 "	" 1884.
" G. W. Welker,	3 "	" 1883.
" J. O. Miller,	2 "	" 1882.
Elder S. Dutrow,	2 "	" 1882.
" G. S. Griffith,	1 year,	" 1881.
Rev. A. H. Kremer,	1 "	" 1881.

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The annual report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows :

LEWIS H. STEINER, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church.*

DR.

Oct. 24, 1879.	To Balance in the Treasury,	\$391.83
" 27, "	To cash from collection at Missionary Meeting in Frederick,	42.70
Dec. 16, "	To loan from Board of Education, being amount of legacy of Jacob Stoudenour, of Friend's Cove, Pa., to Treasurer of said Board, the interest of which is to be applied to its charitable uses,	200.00
April 10, 1880.	To cash—Bequest from Philip Brechbill to Synod,—the interest of which is to be paid annually to the Pastor of the Reformed Church, at Churchtown, Cumberland County, Pa., forwarded by check, dated April 2, 1880, from S. M. Leidich, Esq., for \$200.50, including 50c. for expenses.	200.50
May 26, "	To cash from Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, Treasurer of Virginia Classis,—balance due on assessment for 1879-'80, for contingent expenses,	10.00
June 21, "	To cash from Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, Treasurer of Mercersburg Classis, assessment of said Classis for 1879-'80,	160.00
Sept. 9, "	To cash from Rev. S. S. Miller, Treasurer of Maryland Classis, assessment of said Classis for 1879-'80,	160.00
Oct. 5, "	To cash from Rev. T. Long, Treasurer of North Carolina Classis, assessment of said Classis for 1879-'80,	40.00
		<hr/>
		\$1,205.03

CONTRA. CR.

Oct. 27, 1879.	By cash to Rev. J. O. Miller, per order of Synod,	\$22.00
" " "	By cash to Rev. E. E. Higbee—expenses of committee on music for hymn-book, . . .	25.20
" 28, "	By cash to R. F. Kelker, Treasurer of Foreign Missions, . . .	42.70
Dec. 16, "	By cash to Louis Markell on loan made by him to Synod for Board of Publication, . . .	200.00
Jan. 24, 1880.	By cash to Small & Welsh, for printing Minutes, . . .	119.00
" " "	By cash to Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk, expenses, . . .	15.00
April 10, "	By cash to Louis Markell on loan, . . .	200.00
May 27, "	By cash to Louis Markell on loan, . . .	200.00
June 21, "	By cash to Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk, salary, . . .	100.00
Oct. 5, "	Balance in Treasury, . . .	281.13
		<hr/>
		\$1,205.03

Delinquent Classis.

Zion's Classis for contingent expenses for 1879-'80, . . .	\$160.00
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Liabilities of Synod.

Stondenour Bequest to Board of Education, drawing interest from December 16, 1879, . . .	\$200.00
Brechbill Bequest to Churchtown Church, drawing interest from April 2, 1880, . . .	200.00
Balance due on Markell loan, with interest to Oct. 13, 1880, . . .	297.20
Assessment of General Synod, . . .	260.00
	<hr/>
	\$957.20

Of the above, provision must be made for the payment of the last two items, and of the interest on the first two. The probable expenses of Synod for the coming year, as also those of the Sessions of 1880, must be provided for.

It is suggested that some action be had in reference to the mode of payment of the Brechbill interest to the Churchtown pastor.

Respectfully submitted.

LEWIS H. STEINER.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Standing Committee on Finance submitted their report, during Monday morning's session, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

Your Committee on Finance report, that they have examined the Treasurer's Report, with the accompanying vouchers, and find it to be correct, with a balance of \$281.13 in the treasury. To meet the current expenses of the Synod, and the reduction of loan ordered by the Synod, your Committee recommend the following assessments:

Zion's Classis,	\$160.00
Maryland "	160.00
Mercersburg "	160.00
Virginia "	40.00
North Carolina Classis,	25.00

Making \$545.00

Respectfully submitted.

J. O. MILLER,	}	Committee.
J. M. SCHICK,		
S. L. WHITMORE,		
JOEL J. ROSSITER,		
JOHN P. REED,		
I. H. KEEFER,		
W. H. BARGELT.		

On motion, the Treasurer of Synod was instructed to pay two hundred and sixty dollars to the Treasurer of the General Synod, said sum being the amount assessed upon this Synod in 1878 by the General Synod for Contingent Fund.

III. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF SYNOD.

The Board of Trustees of Synod presented their annual report to Synod, during the session of Friday morning, which was received and adopted, and is as follows :

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac.

The Board of Trustees of the Synod of the Potomac met in Frederick, Md., Oct. 24, 1879, and was organized by electing Rev. J. O. Miller, President, and Dr. Lewis H. Steiner, Secretary.

The Board continued the Rev. M. H. Sangree as their agent to collect the balance due on the loan effected by them by order of the Synod. He reports, that he has been unable to canvass during the year, and has therefore accomplished nothing. We suggest, therefore, inasmuch as it is difficult to liquidate the remaining indebtedness, in this way, that the Synod advise a small increase to the several Classes for contingent expenses, and in this way the indebtedness of \$297.20 due Louis Markell may be cancelled.

In regard to the interest of the Philip Brechbill legacy, the Board suggest that the Treasurer of Synod be and hereby is authorized to pay the same, when due, to the Rev. George E. Addams, pastor of the Churchtown congregation, or his successor in office. And further, that the interest on the loan from the Board of Education of this Synod, the Treasurer be authorized, in the same way, to pay to the Rev. William M. Deatrick, the Treasurer of the Board of Education.

And still further, the Board calls the attention of this Synod to the fact, that the term of office of the Rev. J. O. Miller, as Trustee, expires January 1st, 1881, and a successor will have to be chosen to fill his place.

J. O. MILLER, *President of the Board.*

At the election held for members of the several Boards of Synod, Rev. J. T. Rossiter was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod for five years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. J. T. Rossiter,	5 years,	January 1, 1886
Elder Louis Markell,	4 "	" 1, 1885
" H. Wirt Shriver,	3 "	" 1, 1884
Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich,	2 "	" 1, 1883
Elder Lewis H. Steiner,	1 year,	" 1, 1882

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

Nothing took place under this caption.

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board presented its annual report, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows :

The Board organized at the close of the sessions of the last Synod, by electing Rev. J. W. Santee, *President*, and Rev. A. R. Kremer, *Secretary and Treasurer*. The duties of the Board are somewhat undefined, and as such, no business was created during the year, claiming attention, and the Board has nothing special to report. According to custom of former years, the Board made the following order to be observed during the sessions of this Synod, and would recommend Friday Evening as the time, and the following the subject for discussion : *Sunday-school Teachers* and *Sunday-school Literature*. Speakers—Revs. W. R. H. Deatrich and I. S. Weisz. To be followed by short addresses by members of Synod.

The Treasurer of the Board reports that he has in hand the amount of \$49.77. And further, the term of Rev. W. K. Zieber will expire with this present session, and asks the Synod to make provision for the election of a successor.

Respectfully submitted:

J. W. SANTEE, *President*.

The following preamble and resolution were adopted :

WHEREAS, The action of this Synod, one year ago, on the matter of the Lesson Papers, did not secure, at the hands of those having control in the premises, the form of Lesson Papers, which this Synod desires ; and WHEREAS, This Synod entertains the same views and desires as expressed in last year's action ; therefore,

Resolved, That the action of last Synod be reiterated in regard to the preparation of the Sunday-school Lessons, according to the order of the Church Year.

Rev. Wm. Rupp was, on motion, re-elected the member from this Synod of the committee to prepare such lessons.

The Reformed Church Publication Board was, on motion, requested to remunerate him in the future for his labors.

At the election held for members of the different Boards of Synod Rev. W. K. Zieber was re-elected a member of the Sunday-school Board for the term of five years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. W. K. Zieber,	. . . . .	5 years,	. . . . .	October, 1885
Elder G. S. Griffith,	. . . . .	4 "	. . . . .	" 1884
Rev. D. W. Ebbert,	. . . . .	3 "	. . . . .	" 1883
Rev. J. W. Santee,	. . . . .	2 "	. . . . .	" 1882
Rev. A. R. Kremer,	. . . . .	1 year,	. . . . .	" 1881

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The following resolution, in reference to the items under the heading of *Irregularities* in the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classes, was adopted, to wit:

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to write to the Stated Clerks of the San Francisco and Portland-Oregon Classes, respectfully calling the attention of those Classes to the *irregularities* in their action, as specified under items 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of said Report.

Items 7, 11 and 19 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classes were referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. A. R. Kremer, L. M. Hensell and Elder J. H. Lichliter for consideration. At a subsequent session, this committee submitted their report, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee, to whom items 7, 11 and 19 of the Report on Minutes of Classes were referred for consideration, beg leave to submit the following report. In reference to item 7, your Committee submit the following resolution for adoption.

Resolved, That this Synod has learned with regret that the Classis of San Francisco has transacted business without a constitutional quorum, and earnestly enjoins upon said Classis to avoid such irregularity in the future.

The same Classis, according to item 19, although organized without a constitutional quorum, proceeded to examine, license and ordain Mr. E. De Geller, to the office of the Christian Ministry. In

reference to this, your committee would offer the following resolution for adoption:

Resolved, That this action of certain ministers of the said San Francisco Classis, in ordaining Mr. E. De Geller, is irregular, however unavoidable it may have seemed under the circumstances, and the Synod instructs all concerned to adhere rigidly to the law of the Church in a matter of so great importance; and, further, that this Synod, inasmuch as said ordination has actually been performed, with good and loyal intention, as appears on the record, hereby validates the same.

Your Committee recommends the adoption of item 11.

Respectfully submitted.

A. R. KREMER,
L. M. HENSELL,
J. H. LICHLITER, } Committee.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk, in regard to the publication of the Minutes of the Seventh Annual Meeting of Synod, and was adopted.

REPORT ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report, that he had two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last Annual Meeting of the Synod printed and bound in pamphlet form, according to instructions, and distributed them agreeably to the rules and regulations in the case. The Minutes number eight pages more than those of the previous year, but actually cost \$5.25 less. The Minutes were printed and bound by Messrs. Small and Welsh, of York, Pa., at a cost of \$119, which was punctually paid by the Treasurer of Synod.

Respectfully submitted.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, printed, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

On motion, the printing of the Minutes was ordered to be offered to the Reformed Church Publication Board, for the present year.

I. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD.

The Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board was received and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Publication. The Report is as follows, to wit:

Annual Report of the Board of Publication from August 1st, 1879, to July 31st, 1880.

To the Synods of the United States, Pittsburgh, and the Potomac, the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States, respectfully submits the following report:

The Board has had three meetings during the year, and at each of them given earnest attention to the interests entrusted to their care. It affords them great pleasure to be able to report a decided improvement in the affairs of the Board, especially as compared with its operations during the previous year. In all the departments, there has been an increase in the receipts of the Board, and in the case of some of the periodicals, it has been very decided. None of the latter also have fallen off in the number of subscribers, whilst in the case of some of them, the increase over all discontinuances is quite encouraging. The excess of additions over discontinuances in each case is as follows: Messenger, 1167; Guardian, 337; Review, 35; Child's Treasury, monthly, 384, Semi-monthly, 506; Sunshine, 1,253, and Lesson Papers, 462.

In the Book department there has been a slight improvement, and this might be made decidedly more so in the future, were proper encouragement extended to it generally by the Church. Funds are needed to get out new works, which would add materially to the interest and efficiency of the workings of this department, and it is to be hoped, some friends of means in the Church may be induced to make liberal contributions for this purpose, as is done in other Churches. In many instances members of the Church, also, purchase their books for Sunday-schools and other Church purposes, elsewhere, under the mistaken notion, that they thus obtain them at a less cost. Such, however, are the arrangements of the Board with other houses, that their books are furnished to it at such rates as to enable the Board to sell them to others at the same prices, as they can be purchased by them directly from these houses themselves, and at the same time afford a small profit to the Board. Should the mistaken notion to which we refer be corrected, and the patronage of the Church given to the Board in preference to other houses, it would greatly add to the efficiency and success of the Book department. And may it not be hoped that the desired change will take place? The number of copies of books, &c., printed for this department during the year, is 34,500.

The usual committee, to whom is assigned the special duty of taking an account of stock and investigating the financial condition of the establishment, was appointed. They attended to their duty, and reported, that "they find the stock in the store in good condition, having less unsaleable goods than last year. The price of some books they reduced, and advanced none, which they think leaves the stock worth its present valuation. The financial condition they found quite satisfactory, a detailed account of which is furnished in the Superintendent's report to the Board." This report presents the following footing up for the year:

Receipts from all sources,	\$34,106 84
Disbursements,	33,132 06
Excess of Receipts,	<u>\$974 78</u>
Assets, reported face value,	\$58,943 26
Deduction by committee	12,723 27
Value of assets as estimated	\$46,219 99
Add real estate	35,000 00
Carried over	<u>\$81,219 99</u>

Amount of assets brought over . . .	\$81,219 99
<i>Liabilities</i> : General . . .	\$34,599 75
Mortgage . . .	20,000 00
	<hr/>
	54,599 75
Excess of assets . . .	<hr/>
	\$26,620 24

In consequence of severe family afflictions and overwork, the Superintendent was taken seriously ill in February last, so that at one stage of his illness his physician considered his life in danger. The Board felt, it was necessary, that he should be relieved from some of his labors. Hence at its meeting in April last, it associated with him, as Assistant Superintendent, the Rev. Charles G. Fisher, who had been summoned to his father's side during his illness. This arrangement was effected without adding anything to the expenses of the Board, and there is every reason to believe, that it will work decidedly to its interests. Under the special direction of his physician, the Superintendent found it necessary to be absent from his post, for a short season, at intervals, during the past Summer. His place, however, during such absence was supplied at his own expense, so that his temporary absence was of no serious disadvantage to the Board.

The Board has endeavored in all things to move forward with the utmost economy, and to persevere in its special efforts to collect its outstanding dues. At its last meeting, it instructed its Superintendent to notify all persons owing for two years or more, for books and periodicals, to settle their accounts, and if said accounts are not attended to within sixty days after such notice is given, to place them in the hands of a solicitor for collection.

The Board congratulates the Church on the successful efforts of its General Agent, Mr. H. K. Binkley, in securing subscribers to the "Messenger." It is hoped he may be equally successful in the future, and to this end, the Board solicits for him the earnest and hearty co-operation of the brethren of the Church, whose charges he may visit from time to time, in the prosecution of his labors.

The Board has instructed the Superintendent to discontinue the issue of the single sheet "Messenger" after the close of the present year. It also deemed it expedient, after a careful revision of the whole subject, not to discontinue the publication of the Semi-monthly Child's Treasury, as proposed in its last annual report. It has likewise instructed the Superintendent of the Book Department to reduce the price of the Order of Worship, Hymn books, and several other works published by the Board, the present prices of which will be given to the public through another channel.

At the first meeting of the Board after the last annual sessions of the Synods, it reduced the salaries of the several persons in its employ, effecting thus a considerable deduction in the amount of its current expenses, whilst all possible economy has been also observed in every other direction.

The term of service of Geo. W. Hensel, one of the Trustees from the Synod of the United States, will expire on the 1st of January, 1881. Hence it will devolve upon that Synod to fill the vacancy that will thus occur in the Board, at its present annual sessions.

Respectfully submitted.

D. W. GROSS, *President*.

SAMUEL R. FISHER, *Secretary*.
Philadelphia, Pa., Sept. 12th, 1880.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The Standing Committee on Publication reported, during the session of Saturday Forenoon, which was received, considered item by item, amended, and then adopted. The Report as adopted is as follows:

Your Committee on Publication beg leave respectfully to report:

Your Committee had placed in their hands three papers, to wit:—The Annual Report of the Board of Publication for the year ending July 31, 1880; the detailed statement of business and condition of the Reformed Church Publication Board for the same year; and the annual statement of the receipts and disbursements of the establishment. Which several papers were considered by your Committee, and upon consultation have concluded to present to Synod the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That this Synod learns with great pleasure, that the efforts put forth by the Board of Publication to increase the subscription lists of the Church periodicals have been attended with such large success, and would hereby renew its request to the ministers and consistories within the bounds of this Synod, to continue their efforts, and to co-operate with the agents of the Board in carrying forward this work.

Resolved, That this Synod rejoices in the favorable turn, which has taken place in the business operations of the Board, and the improved exhibit of results, as compared with the preceding year.

Resolved, That this Synod heartily approves the movement of the Board in reducing the price of its publications.

Resolved, That this Synod commends the Board of Publication to the favorable notice of our ministers, Sunday-school superintendents, and membership generally, for the procurement of their supplies of books and other articles, dealt in by the Board.

Resolved, That this Synod learns with regret, that an impression largely prevails, that the Board presents less favorable inducements, for the purchase of books and other articles, in which it deals, as also in the printing of pamphlets, minutes of Synod, &c., than competing houses. That the attention of the Board be called to this fact, with the request, that whatever of truth there may be in this impression, may command its early attention, with all possible effort for the removal of this sure hindrance to a speedy enlargement of its business success.

Resolved, That the Board of Publication be requested by this Synod to publish a new edition of the Heidelberg Catechism from new plates.

Resolved, That this Synod earnestly requests the Board of Publication, that the "Order of Worship," and the "Hymns for the Reformed Church" be bound with stronger binding.

Respectfully submitted.

S. N. CALLENDER, ELLIS N. KREMER, J. DAVID MILLER, ISAAC M. MOTTER, ABRAM WHETSTONE, JACOB REED, F. A. DAIHL.	} Committee.
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The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 15, the continuance of the Committee to prepare and publish, conjointly with a similar Committee from the Synod of the Reformed

Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," *with music*.

The Committee presented the following report, which was received and adopted. The report is as follows:

To the Reverend Potomac Synod.

Your Committee, on Music for the new Hymn Book, beg leave to report, that they have finished the selection of tunes required, and have them all nearly copied out for the hands of the printer. All that is required now, is one more joint-meeting of the Committees of the two Synods to complete the work, and place it in the hands of the printers.

Respectfully submitted.

E. E. HIGBEE.

The Committee was continued, with instructions to have said Hymn Book, with music, published at the earliest practicable time.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder Goldsboro S. Griffith,	.....3 years,	.....	1883.
" Adam B. Wingard,	.....2 "	.....	1882.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the session of Friday afternoon, the Standing Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received and adopted. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have a sufficient number of tickets of these nominations printed for the use of the Synod, and the election was made the order of the day for Saturday afternoon, after Preparatory Services. At the time designated, the election took place. Revs. I. M. Motter, D. W. Ebbert, D. N. Dittmar and Elder J. M. Hoffman, were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Missions, Trustees of Synod, Sunday schools, Regents of Mercersburg College and Theological Seminary.

REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS TO PEACE CONVENTION.

The Delegates or Commissioners to the Peace Convention, held in Harrisburg, Pa., last autumn, presented the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Inasmuch as a desire has been expressed, that the Delegates elected by this Synod to represent it in the Peace Commission, lately convened in Harrisburg, Pa., obedient to the call of the General Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, should communicate to this body some general account of the results of that convocation, the undersigned in obedience to the intent

of their election repaired to Harrisburg, Pa., at the appointed time, to wit, Nov. 26, 1879, where, together with all the delegates elected by the several District Synods, save one member from the Pittsburg Synod, who did not appear, they entered upon the discharge of the solemn and important duty committed to their hands. The sessions of the Commission extended over the space of one week, when the most happy and harmonious results were reached, as appeared in the Pastoral Letter addressed, and published to the ministers and membership of the Church.

Your delegates would beg to say, that whatever apprehensions may anywhere have existed prior to the meeting of the Commission, as to the temper and disposition which might be developed, all were most happily allayed after the very first meeting. Each Commissioner seemed to be impressed with a deeply solemn sense of the vital gravity of the work committed to their hands. There was a full and fair expression given to the several interests to be reconciled, and the assurances were mutually given, that almost any reasonable concession ought to be made on either side, which did not involve the sacrifice of principle. The discussions were conciliatory, but, at the same time, manly and firm, while the spirit of prayer and a solemn sense of the fear of God, and devotion to the cause and kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, marked them throughout.

The satisfactory and harmonious results reached, impressed each one with a lively sense of the presence and grace of the Holy Spirit, and when, as a befitting conclusion of thanksgiving and worship, the whole body gathered around the altar of our Saviour's dying love, all alone in that large church, and late at night, such was the clear apprehension of the presence and guidance of the Spirit of God, that each one bowed his head with the profoundest reverence and worship, and tears of thankfulness and praise moistened many an eye. It was one of the richest feasts of charity and reverent worship, that it ever has been the privilege of your delegates to share in. We parted with the prayer that God would bless our labors, and bring peace, and love and prosperity to our beloved Church, so long agitated and disturbed.

Respectfully submitted.

S. N. CALLENDER,
G. WM. WELKER,
HENRY WIRT,
LEWIS H. STEINER.

In this connection, the following resolution was adopted :

Resolved, That this Synod is devoutly thankful to the Head of the Church for the happy results already reached by the action of the Peace Commission, and prays for the further guidance of the Holy Ghost, so that the work now begun may, by the action of the next General Synod of the Church, in the adoption of the report of said Commission, reach a blessed conclusion.

The overture from the Mercersburg Classis, as contained in item 6, of the Report of the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classis, requesting the Synod to recommend to all its congregations the observance of the 18th day of May, 1881, upon which the General Synod is to convene, as a time of fasting and prayer for the Divine blessing upon the deliberation of that body, was granted, and that day was ordered to be so observed.

On motion, the Stated Clerk was instructed to call the attention of all concerned, to the foregoing action, by announcement in *The Messenger* and in *The Christian World*, some time previous to the convening of the General Synod.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 3, reported a statement of the condition and wants of Bethany Orphan's Home at Womelsdorf, Pa. The item was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Revs. J. H. Sykes, J. S. Loose, and Elder S. B. Snively. This Committee, during the session of Tuesday Forenoon, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, viz.:

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BETHANY ORPHAN HOME.

Your committee would respectfully report, that the only document which has come into their hands, is the Report of the Board of Managers of said Institution.

From this Report we learn, that there has been growing prosperity during the past year; that the health and behavior of the Orphans has been good. Sixteen Orphans were admitted, and eight left the Home, during the year. The whole number of orphans, now in the Home, is sixty. On last Good-Friday, seven of the orphans were admitted to the full communion of the Church by confirmation.

The total receipts amounted to \$6,647.93; this included a legacy of \$1000, and another of \$100; besides an old claim of \$1,340, which was collected; and \$4,300 contributed by individuals and congregations.

The expenditures amounted to \$6,418.67; the floating debt, one year ago, was \$3000; it has been reduced to \$800. The farm has yielded good crops, in the past year, and promises to do still better in the future.

During the past year, an effort has been made to provide for the payment of a claim of \$4000, which was due one year ago. The intention was to get forty persons, to give each \$100. The effort was in part, successful; to what extent this was done, we are unable to state.

In view of the present condition and present wants of this Institution, we recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we heartily recommend all our ministers and congregations to contribute so far as possible, to this worthy object.

Resolved, That we recommend those of our congregations, which have Christmas services, to devote their Christmas alms to this object; and those congregations, which do not have Christmas services, we recommend to devote the collections of some one Lord's Day, to this purpose, due notice having been given beforehand.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. SYKES,
JOS. S. LOOSE,
SAM'L B. SNIVELY. } Committee.

SOCIETY FOR THE RELIEF OF MINISTERS AND WIDOWS OF MINISTERS.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted:

WHEREAS, The Society for the Relief of disabled Ministers and the Widows of deceased Ministers, is a subject of the greatest importance and interest to the ministry; and, WHEREAS, Disabled Ministers and Widows are multiplying on our hands annually; therefore,

Resolved, That the Synod commends this Society to the favorable consideration of the churches, and requests the Classes within its bounds to order a collection for the benefit of the Society, to be taken up, in our churches, on or about the third Sunday in June next.

Item 4 of the Report of the Standing Committee on Overtures, having reference to the irregularity of the Maryland Classis, in the payment of missionaries without orders from the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, as complained of by said Board, was referred to a special Committee, consisting of Revs. Wm. R. H. Deatrich, Ellis N. Kremer, and Elder J. P. Reed.

At a subsequent session, this Committee reported; their report was received, amended and adopted, and is as follows:

Your Committee, to whom was referred item 4, of the Report of the Committee on Overtures, beg leave to report, That Maryland Classis was irregular in paying out missionary money to missionaries, without an order from the Board of Missions. Synod expresses the hope, that all the Classes will pay out their missionary funds through the Board of Missions.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. R. H. DEATRICH,
ELLIS N. KREMER,
JNO. P. REED. } Committee.

Rev. I. S. Weisz was, on motion, appointed Reading Clerk, for the present sessions of Synod.

Revs. T. F. Hoffmeier, F. J. Sauerber and E. N. Kremer, were appointed a committee to report the proceedings of Synod for the public press.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon each member of Synod to meet the necessary incidental expenses of the present sessions of the Synod. Rev. A. Shulenberger, and Elder E. Williard, were appointed a special committee to collect said assessment. At a subsequent session, the committee reported as follows, which was received and adopted:

We, the committee to collect an assessment of twenty-five cents from each member of the Synod, report, that we have fulfilled our trust, and have collected twenty-three dollars and seventy-five cents, and have passed the same over to the *Pastor loci*.

Respectfully submitted.

A. SHULENBERGER,
EZRA WILLIARD. } Committee.

Item 12 of the Report on Minutes of Classes, having reference to the non-acceptance by the Zion's Classis of the amount apportioned to said Classis by the Synod for the purchasing of a lot, and the erecting of a chapel for Grace Reformed Mission in Washington, D. C., was referred to a special committee for consideration,

consisting of Revs. G. L. Staley, J. H. Sykes, and Elder J. T. Motter. This committee reported, at a subsequent session, as follows, which was received and adopted, viz.:

Your Committee, to whom was referred item 12 of the Report of the Committee on Minutes of Classes, would respectfully report for adoption the following resolutions:

Resolved, That we have heard with great regret, that Zion's Classis did not accede to the apportionment made by the Synod for the purpose specified.

Resolved, That, in view of the great importance aimed at, namely, the establishment of an English congregation of the Reformed Church, in the Capital of the nation, we earnestly request the Zion's Classis to take upon themselves their proper proportion of the burden, which is, as we believe, the amount allotted to that Classis, at the meeting of the Synod at Hagerstown.

Respectfully submitted.

J. H. SYKES, *Chairman*.

On motion, the following preamble and resolutions were adopted, to wit:

WHEREAS, The General Synod of Lancaster, held in 1878, made its assessment for contingent expenses upon the District Synods on the basis or ratio of members, contrary to the precedent formed by all the previous General Synods, which was on the basis or ratio of ministers belonging to each District Synod; therefore,

Resolved, That this Synod respectfully and earnestly overtures the next General Synod, to be held in Tiffin, Ohio, next May, to return to the basis or ratio of ministers, in making its assessments for contingent expenses.

Resolved, further, That this Synod requests those who may be delegated from the several Classes of this Synod to the next General Synod, to urge a return to the basis or ratio of ministers, in making the necessary assessments for contingent purposes, as the only proper and equitable one.

On Saturday morning, a committee was appointed, with power to grant leave of absence, consisting of Revs. J. H. Sykes, P. A. Long and Elder W. H. Haugh. The committee reported, just before final adjournment, as follows, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee on Leave of Absence would respectfully report, that quite a number of applications have been made, and that after carefully considering the merits of each case, as they appeared, have granted such leave of absence to the following members of Synod:

Ministers.—A. Spangler, A. J. Whitmore, G. L. Staley, I. B. Weisz, W. F. Colliflower, P. A. Long, W. K. Zieher, J. Kreising, J. C. Bowman, E. B. Eschbach, L. G. Kremer, F. J. Sauerber, and *Elders* M. A. Berry, W. A. Cusaba, J. M. Hoffman, J. E. Singer, S. Dutrow, J. T. Motter, G. H. Hambaugh, F. A. Daihl, and H. Wirt.

Respectfully submitted.

JOHN H. SYKES,
CHAIRMAN.

ARTICLE XXII.

MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology, appointed at the last annual meeting of Synod, presented the following report, which was received and adopted :

Your Committee offer the following as their report :

During the Synodical year now closing, God, in His infinite wisdom, has seen fit to call two of our Brethren, the Rev. Jacob Sechler and the Rev. John Ault, from their labors on earth to their reward in heaven. Both died in their fields of labor, at their posts of duty and honor; the former at an advanced age, and the latter in the vigor of his manhood.

The Rev. Jacob Sechler died at his residence in Hanover, York county, Pa., on the 10th of May last. He was born in Turbut township, Northumberland county, Pa., March 18th, A. D. 1806. His age was seventy-four years, one month and twenty-two days. He was buried on Thursday morning, May 13th, in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, near Hanover, Pa.

From his youth he was earnest and devoted, and possessed early in life the desire to enter the Christian ministry. At the age of eighteen years, after attending a course of catechetical instruction, he was confirmed. The period of his preparation for the high office of the ministry was a season of great struggle, and trial, and darkness. He spent three years in an academy at Reisters-town, Baltimore county, Maryland. In the fall of 1834 he went to the High School and Theological Seminary of the Reformed Church at York, Pa., presided over by the Rev. Drs. Lewis Mayer and Frederick A. Rauch. Here he pursued his studies for the term of one year; and then, for reasons satisfactory to himself, he went to the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg, Pa., where he completed his studies preparatory to the work of the Christian Ministry.

He commenced his labors in the ministry as assistant to the Rev. Samuel Gutelius, pastor of the Hanover Charge, who was then in ill health. Having labored in this capacity for four months, he was, upon the resignation of Rev. S. Gutelius, elected as pastor of the charge, and accepted the solemn trust on the 20th of June, A. D. 1837. He was licensed and ordained by Zion's Classis in the spring of 1837, being then thirty-one years of age. In this first field he labored for a period of twenty-two years. He established other preaching points and built new churches, and the work of the Lord greatly prospered in his hands. At the expiration of the twenty-two years of labor, this charge was divided, and he received immediately a call from that part called the Littlestown Charge, and accepted it. Here he labored continuously and faithfully for seven and a-half years. At this time (1866), the Hanover Charge was divided, and the country churches, as now organized, were called the Manheim Charge. He received a call from this charge, and entered upon his labors November 1st, 1866. Here he continued fourteen years, until the time of his death. His whole ministry embraces a period of forty-three years.

To bring before you, in a few words, the excellences and great worth of this venerable and good father, we quote from the paper adopted by Zion's Classis, in reference to his death: "Mild and gentle in manner, diligent in the discharge of his duties, and an earnest preacher, he secured and held the confidence and affection of all who knew him." St. Paul says: "It is required in stewards, that a man be found faithful." To the full measure of his ability, Bro. Sechler met this requirement. To him the Head of the Church has already spoken the great reward: "Well done, thou good and faithful servant."

Rev. John Ault died, after an illness of ten days, at his residence in Littlestown, Adams county, Pa., on Monday, July 26th. He was born at Annville, Lebanon county, Pa., on the 1st of April, 1836. His age was forty-four years, three months and twenty-six days. His lifeless remains were interred, July 29th, in a grave near the entrance to Christ's Church, a short distance from Littlestown.

Bro. Ault, like Father Sechler, was reared in the Reformed Church. Baptized in his infancy by Rev. H. Wagner, after attending a course of catechetical instruction, he was confirmed by the Rev. F. W. Kremer, of Lebanon, Pa. It was by the advice of his pastor, who saw in him those peculiar gifts, which would qualify him for the work of the Christian ministry, that, in 1853, he entered the Freshman Class of Franklin and Marshall College. Here he took a full course, and graduated with honor in 1857. In the fall of the same year, he entered the Theological Seminary at Mercersburg, Pa., where he remained one year. In 1858 he was licensed by the Classis of Lebanon, and was subsequently received by the Classis of Zion. Having received a call from the Sulphur Spring Charge, in Cumberland county, Pa., and having accepted it, he was ordained to the Holy Ministry. In 1859 he received and accepted a call from the Loudon and St. Thomas Charge in Franklin county, and continued to serve it until 1863. Here he labored earnestly and faithfully, and the charge enjoyed a high degree of prosperity. From this place, in 1863, he removed to Mechanicsburg, Cumberland county, and became pastor of four congregations in the vicinity of this town. He organized a congregation in Mechanicsburg, and, in 1864 built a church; and so extraordinary was his prosperity, that this church was soon found too small, and in 1868 it was greatly enlarged.

In 1873, Brother Ault received a call from the Christ Church Charge, in the vicinity of Littlestown, Adams county, Pa. Here he labored until the time of his death. In this charge also large additions were made to the church, and some of the church edifices were remodeled and others enlarged.

Brother Ault was possessed of a kind heart and could sympathize with suffering wherever he met it. It was perhaps this that led him, during the late civil strife, to serve a whole year as chaplain of the 126th Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers, sharing with the men their perils and toils. In whatever he undertook, he labored with great earnestness. As a minister, he was active in visiting his people, and faithful in preaching the truth as it is in Jesus. But his work is done, his warfare is accomplished, and the Lord has called him up higher. "They that be wise, shall shine as the brightness of the firmament; and they that turn many to righteousness, as the stars for ever and ever."

Respectfully submitted.

I. G. BROWN,	} Committee.
J. DAVID MILLER,	
REINHART R. SMITH.	

ARTICLE XXIII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted:

VOTE OF THANKS.

Resolved, That the most hearty thanks of this Synod be tendered the Pastor, consistory, and members of the Reformed Church and other citizens of Wood.

stock and vicinity, for their marked kindness and liberal hospitality extended to us during our present sessions.

Resolved, That the Pastor loci be requested to read the foregoing resolution from his pulpit, and have it published in the newspapers of Woodstock.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be instructed to communicate the thanks of Synod to the management of the Baltimore and Ohio, the Cumberland Valley, and the Pennsylvania Railroads, for favoring the members of Synod, in travelling over their respective roads at reduced rates of fare.

The Synodical Roll was called just before final adjournment, and the following members were found to be absent without permission, namely: Revs. R. R. Smith and Elder D. Hildebrand, of *Zion's Classis*; Rev. S. M. Hench and Elder J. B. Zimmerman, of *Maryland Classis*; and Revs. J. A. Hoffheins, L. M. Hensell, and Elders T. N. Sellers and R. L. Gray, of *Virginia Classis*.

The Minutes were then finally read and approved, and ordered to be engrossed.

The following resolutions were adopted, during the session of Saturday afternoon, to wit:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of Synod be in *General Convention*.

Resolved, That when we adjourn finally, it be to meet again in annual sessions in Trinity Reformed Church, of Waynesboro, Franklin County, Pa., on Wednesday evening, October 19th, A.D. 1881, at 7 o'clock.

The Synod adjourned finally on Tuesday afternoon, October 19th, at 12½ o'clock, with repeating the Apostles' Creed, joining in the Lord's Prayer, singing the doxology, and benediction by the President.

G. H. MARTIN, *President*.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Official copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *STATED CLERK*.

CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfrd.	Infants.	Adults	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Treasurers.	Deaths.	N. Schools.	P. R. Sch's.	Min. Stud.	Contributions.	Post-Office Address.	
	(Cong.)															Benef. Purp's.	Comp's. Purp's.	
Joseph W. Santee, D. D.,	4 Caretown,	390	150	26	4	24	3	355	7			10	4	220		\$123 00	\$700 00	Caretown, Washington Co., Md.
George L. Staley, D. D.,	1 St. Stephens,	25	15		1	2	1	23	2							10 00		Knoxville, Frederick do
Edmund R. Eschbach, D. D.,	1 Evangelical Reformed,	551	420	29	2	35	8	411	5			24	1	550		1485 00		do do
William Goodrich,	2 Clearspring,	170	80	16	4	6	2	170	3			12	2	140		114 00		do do
Simon S. Miller,	2 Boonsboro,	174	125	9	1	2	3	160	2			9	2	175		82 00		do do
J. Spangler Kieffer,	2 Hagerstown,	283	200	16	1	10	4	320	5			12	2	285		430 00		do do
Abner R. Kremer,	2 Emmitsburg,	373	334	26	1	7	9	289	7			3	2	100		46 00		do do
Mortimer L. Shuford,	1 Reurrection,	129	60	1	1	7	3	110	1			1	1	40		14 00		do do
F. Allison Long,	4 Tanertown,	359	370	41	5	20	10	300	7			10	18	2	175	60 00		do do
Joel T. Rooster,	1 First Reformed,	354	139	31	2	23	11	313	9			11	1	310		514 05		do do
Neemiah Skyles,	4 Jefferson,	306	250	13	3	8	3	306	2			11	4	225		251 00		do do
Henry Wissler,	5 Mechanicstown,	318	248	15	1	15	5	277				11	4	135		69 00		do do
T. Franklin Hoffmeier,	1 Middletown,	368	225	43	1	12	3	311	3			12	1	275		509 00		do do
Ambrose C. Geary,	3 Mt. Moriah,	180	65	5	2	7	4	175	1			3	3	200		130 00		do do
John G. Noss,	3 Westminster,	759	500	48	3	31	2	461	33			14	2	235		270 00		do do
Anthony Shulenberger,	3 Mr. Pleasant,	119	78	08	12	104	3					4	2	120		42 00		do do
William Rapp,	4 Manchester,	465	354	30	1	4	5	410	3			8	4	250		103 00		do do
Leighton G. Kremer,	1 Christ's Church,	91	60	12	1	7	8	87				5	1	107		20 00		do do
Marion L. Firor,	1 St. Paul's Ref. (Eng.),	121	55	9	3	25	21	115				1	1	206		118 00		do do
Conrad Clever,	1 Third Reformed,	251	103	20	2	28	24	233	2			9	1	247		366 00		do do
Silas M. Hench,	4 Glade,	367	250	10	3	19	2	320				2	6	310		83 00		do do
Charles F. Sontag,	1 Grace Church,	46	19		1	15	28					1	1	31		3 00		do do
Yasanti,	1 St. Mathews,	27	30	2		27	23					1	35					do do
George B. Russell, D. D.,	Without Charge,																	do do
Orange E. Lako,	do																	do do
Charles H. Conn,	do																	do do
Jonas B. Shontz,	Prison Chaplain,																	do do
Henry E. Cook,	Licentiate,																	do do
George M. Zacharias,	do																	do do
Total, 28.		6227	4131	413	37	352	169	5249	95			11	175	47	4401	\$4832 00	\$33,888 00	Waynesboro, Franklin Co., Pa.

Co.	Me	P.	Te	Ad	Co	Co	Di	Ex	Br	De	St	Bo	*\$ 18 66\$	purposes	Franklin Co., Pa.		
Without charge,	348	328	26	8	11	8	325	3	0	1	4	3	195	0	259 00	Merersburg, do	
3 Merersburg,															505 00	do do	
Disabled,	21	8	0	0	1	21	2	6	10	0	0	0	1	39 24	4 51	Upper Strasburg, do	
1 Col. E. Higbee, D. D.,	226	150	10	4	24	6	217	7	0	7	1	90	0	133 84	1 348 07	Merersburg, do	
1 Greencastle,																Greencastle, do	
2 Prof. in Mer. College,	340	100	13	0	5	8	293	16	0	2	4	2	220	0	180 47	900 00	Merersburg, do
2 Huntingdon,																Huntingdon, do	
Disabled,	324	226	13	1	16	9	275	11	0	0	6	3	155	0	344 00	1052 00	Bedford, do
3 Bedford,	351	170	14	3	10	8	315	7	0	5	3	230	4	327 00	1180 00	Alexandria, do	
3 Watertown,																Huntingdon, do	
Without charge,																Chambersburg, do	
Superannuated,	130	75	21	2	6	13	120	1	0	0	2	125	0	72 68	1000 00	Waynesboro, do	
2 London; supply,	434	338	21	3	14	12	364	7	0	4	3	215	0	132 00	1005 00	Merersburg, do	
4 St. Clairsville,	249	180	9	1	1	231	14	0	1	0	2	200	0	347 00	2622 32	Charlesville, do	
3 Friend's Cove,	146	78	11	5	24	0	139	2	0	3	1	80	0	35 00	420 00	Martinsburg, do	
1 Clover Creek; supply,	109	74	10	1	9	5	87	2	0	3	2	80	0	53 50	625 00	Orbisonia, do	
3 Orbisonia,	179	174	14	3	5	159	6	0	8	1	144	1	137 88	683 63	St. Thomas, do		
3 St. Thomas,	171	115	13	4	6	138	2	0	0	6	290	1	200 01	900 00	Waynesboro, do		
2 Mont Alto,	153	60	2	0	0	125	1	0	7	1	105	0	60 41	1174 86	Shippensboro, do		
1 Shippensboro,	301	220	10	2	7	6	230	5	0	2	1	280	0	215 20	1451 26	Chambersburg, do	
1 Chambersburg,	154	160	11	0	7	6	123	3	0	0	3	100	0	38 17	466 75	Mann's Choice, do	
3 Sulphur Spring,	336	250	28	1	9	16	294	3	0	2	250	2	109 35	2075 00	Waynesboro, do		
3 Waynesboro,	392	395	53	4	29	4	357	15	0	0	16	4	42 10	658 00	Claysburg, do		
4 Greenfield,	237	199	8	2	15	4	182	1	0	3	32	180	0	42 13	632 00	Martinsburg, do	
2 Martinsburg,	243	163	15	0	2	2	189	9	0	1	8	1	45	57 55	740 Schellburg, do		
3 Schellburg,	321	210	21	5	21	1	310	7	0	0	4	227	0	203 50	780 00	James Creek, do	
4 Woodcock Valley,	183	115	22	2	7	6	117	2	0	0	3	203	0	137 00	1596 00	Pattonville, do	
2 Yellow Creek,	128	81	7	0	10	5	123	4	0	0	2	83	0	20 24	426 00	McConnellsburg, do	
3 McConnellsburg,																Fulton, do	
5 Everett,	231	139	15	6	8	2	198	0	0	0	9	130	0	75 00	525 00	Everett, do	
3 Hickory Bottom,	169	65	4	3	20	3	148	0	0	0	3	207	0	68 72	279 50	Martinsburg, do	
1 Altoona,	322	260	6	0	8	22	50	9	0	7	1	250	1	130 00	1000 00	Altoona, do	
3 Grindstonehill,	178	99	6	0	7	6	153	6	0	0	8	2	170	0	22 46	650 00	Chambersburg, do
1 St. John's, Chamb.,	67	56	2	0	2	1	50	0	0	1	1	40	0	16 43	175 00	do do	
1 Middleburg,	62	37	1	0	5	0	56	0	0	2	1	35	0	15 10	125 00	State Line, do	
Lieentiate,																	
do																	
do																	
George F. Mall,																	
John M. North,																	
John H. Eisenberg,																	
Total, 36.	657	4527	389	56	288	166	5774	145	0	21	142	58	4732	10	82741	6825233 30	* Collection for Home Missions at Meeting of Class.

*** Collection for Home Missions at Meeting of Classis.**

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom. Members.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	R. S. Sch'ls.	Students for Min'ry.	Benef. Purp.	Contributions. Cong.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Geo. H. Martin, D.D.,	4 Woodstock,	403		15	2	10	363	1			2	100	1	535 00	950 00	Woodstock, Shenandoah Co., Va.
Henry St. Jno. Rinker,	1 Lovettsville,	122	95	4		4	84	2			1	65		84 00	627 00	Lovettsville, Loudon do
Sam'l N. Callender, D.D.,	2 Mt. Crawford,	208		11	1	2	188	2			2	120		144 00	600 00	Rockingham, Rockingham Co
Vacant,	2 Winchester,	132	86	2	1	3	86				4	85		32 00	427 00	Winchester, Clark do
Henry Tallhelm,	3 Edenburg,	201		10	2	6	173				1	125		35 00	600 00	Edenburg, Shenandoah do
John C. Bowman,	1 Shephardstown,	134	54	6	1	12	102				3	100	1	100 00	650 00	Shephardstown, Jefferson W. Va.
John A. Hoffhelms,	1 Martinsburg,	230	75	12	2	15	6	197	7		3	100		107 00	1302 00	Martinsburg, Berkeley W. Va.
Samuel L. Whitmore,	2 Middlebrook,	164		9	6	21	3	140			4	100		25 00	425 00	Middlebrook, Augusta Co., Va.
Samuel R. Carnahan,	4 Mill Creek,	254	68	9	5	9	2	231	6	2	4	1	65	55 00	1393 00	Mt. Jackson, Shenandoah do
Lawrence M. Hensell,	3 Rockingham,	244	28	17	5	18	5	199	1		7	3	200	60 00	1000 00	Cross Keys, Rockingham do
John C. Hensell,	Supernumerated,															Mt. Crawford, do do
Joseph S. Looze,	Without charge,															Bridgewater, do do
Anderson J. Whitmore,	Mint Spring Mission,															Mint Spring, Augusta do
Andrew J. Bowers,	Without charge,															Columbiana, Ohio.
Frederick E. Vandersloot	do do															Herndon, Va.
Ministers, 14.		2092	407	95	24	101	27	1763	19	2	38	14	1020	3	\$1237 00	\$8574 00

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms.		Confirmed.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Ereasures.	Deaths.	S. Schols.	S. S. Sch's.	Students for Min'y.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
				Inf'ts.	Adults.										Beney.	Conq. Purp.		
George Wm. Walker,	4 Guilford,	381	200	15	9	17	5	300			10	3	150			487 00	Shaw's Mills,	N. C.
Jeremiah Ingold.	1 Hickory,	46	40	6		2	6	42			2	1	47		208 00	173 00	Hickory,	do
Thomas Long,	4 Upper Davidson,	203		22	9	38	1	155	4		4	2	175	2	140 00	105 00	Salem,	do
Jesse W. Ceell,	1 Moffitt's Grove,	41						41									Thomasville,	do
John Ingle,	3 Central Rowan,	139		21	1	3	2	109	1			1	140		700 00	350 00	Salisbury,	do
Jacob C. Clapp,	3 Catawba,	180	87	30	8	7	3	180			2	2	70				Newton.	do
Peter M. Trexler,	2 West Rowan,	290	211	22	2	3	3	260	2			2				330 00	China Grove,	do
M. L. Hedrick,	4 Lower Davidson,	214	98	18	3	9	1	214			3	2		1	75 00	330 00	Silver Hill,	do
John A. Foll,	3 Lincolnton,	210	87	14		10	1	193	4		3	2	55		113 00	250 00	Newton,	do
John H. Shuford,	3 Grace,	141	69	4	4	5	3	140	4		5	1	50		369 00	300 00	Hickory,	do
Robt. F. Crooks	2 East Rowan,	433	131	4	3	4	3	400	3		4	2	130	1	300 00	300 00	Hellig's Mills,	do
Total, 11.		2248	923	157.	35	93	25	2034	18		39	19	847		4318	4500		

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Treasurers.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'l's.	Min. Stud.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
				Inf'te.	Adults											Renew. Purp's.	Cong'l Purp's.	
Frederick Fox,	Without charge,	197	340	107		9	54	135	17	20	37	2	538	1				New York.
Julius Fuendeling,	2 San Francisco,	79	90	21		0	11	65		7	15	1	70		\$35 00	\$2850 00	No. 29 Eleventh St., San Francis'.	
Conrad F. Waldecker,	1 Stockton,	30	36	21		2		25			4	1	25		13 00	1700 00	Stockton, California.	
E. De Geller,	1 Napa,															300 00	Napa City.	
Total. 4.	4 3	306	466	159.		11	65	225	17.	27	56	4	633.	1	\$48 00	\$4850 00		

CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

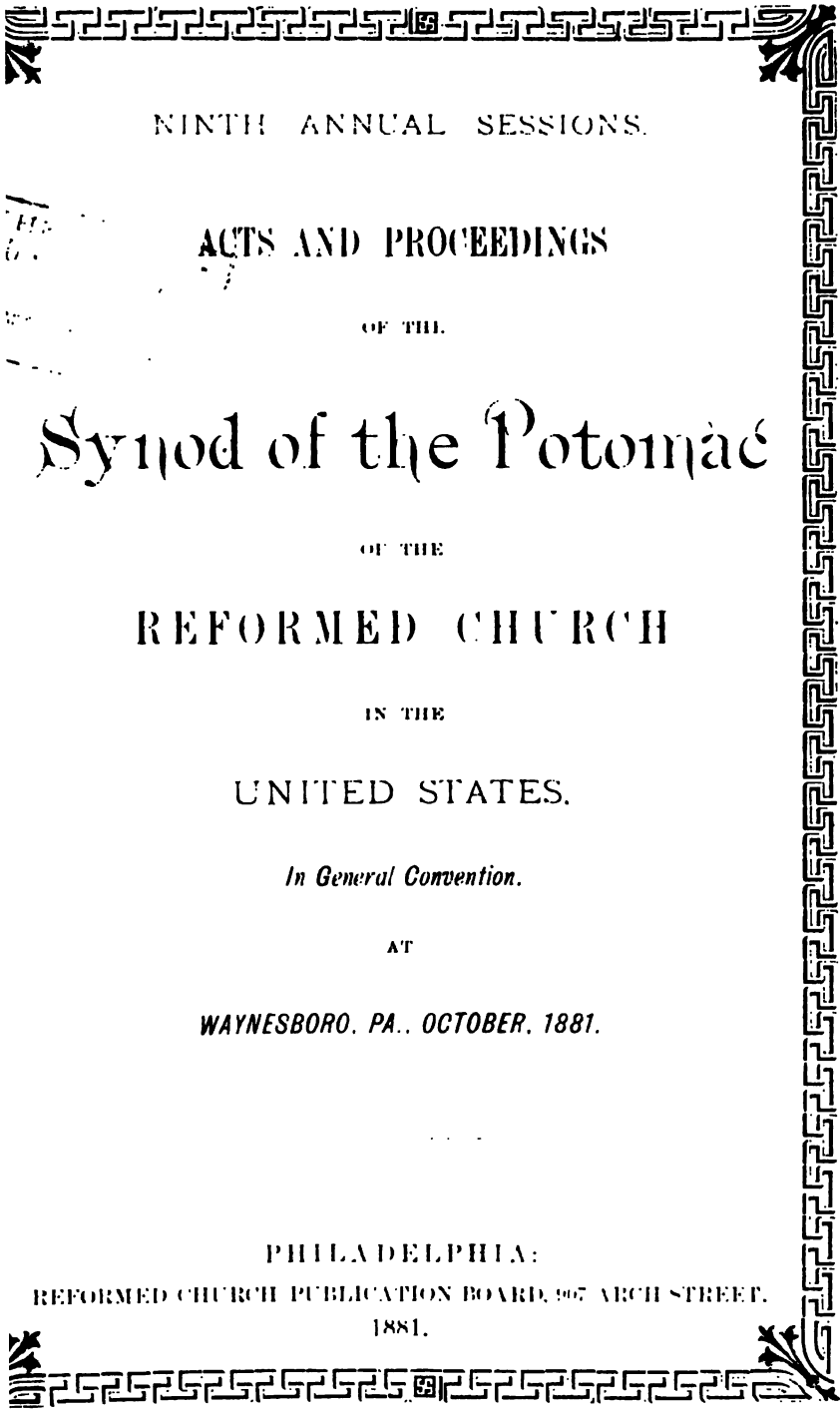
MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Treasurers.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'l's.	Min. Stud.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
				Inf'rs.	Adults											Beney. Purp's.	Cong'l Purp's.	
John Gantenbein, Jacob Muellhaupt, Julius Lange, Geo. Mechtersheimer,	3 Portland, 2 Salem, 1 Meridian, 1 Walla Walla Mission	110 45 27	105 53 26	38 7 3		9 5 2	76 35 16			10 5		5 2 1	1 1 1	60 15 25		\$800 00 500 00 200 00	Portland, Salem, Stafford, Clackamas do Walla Walla, Washington Ter'y.	
Total, 4.	7	182	164	48		2	18	121		15		8	3	100		\$1500 00		

STATISTICAL SUMMARY.
Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Minist'rs.	Congregations.	Members.	Unconfirmed Members.	Baptisms.		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communed.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Ereasures of Names.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	School Scholars.	Students for the Holy Ministry.	Contributions.	
					Infants.	Adults.											Benevolent Purposes.	Congregational Purposes.
Zions, -	31	80	9,797	6,555	688	33	389	128	8,393	100	16	43	277	96	5,893	4	\$4,315.00	\$23,302.00
Maryland, -	28	52	6,227	4,131	413	37	352	169	5,349	95		11	175	47	4,461	3	4,832.00	31,888.00
Mercersburg, -	36	71	6,565	4,527	389	55	288	166	5,774	145	2	142	58	4,732	10	3,742.00	25,233.00	
Virginia, -	14	23	2,092	407	95	24	101	27	1,763	19		2	38	14	1,020	3	1,237.00	8,574.00
North Carolina, -	11	30	2,248	923	157	35	98	25	2,034	18		30	19	847	4	1,845.00	2,605.00	
San Francisco, -	4	4	306	466	159		11	65	225	17		27	57	4	633	1	48.00	4,850.00
Portland-Oregon, -	4	7	152	164	48		2	18	121			15	8	3	100			1,500.00
Total, 7 Classes,	128	267	27,417	17,173	1,949	184	1,241	598	23,559	400	2	119	735	241	17,686	25	\$16,019.00	\$99,952.00
Synod of the United States, 9 Classes,	211	433	67,936	38,498	5,200	377	3,740	1,209	55,772	712	2	602	2,103	526	39,496	51	27,734.26	231,128.62
Synod of Ohio, 11 Classes,	149	296	21,006	9,536	1,030	386	1,214	680	17,562	346	19	387	379	231	19,100	16	6,834.00	101,763.00
Synod of the North West, 11 Classes,	157	246	24,054	17,189	2,334	59	1,593	1,017	19,918	427	80	205	767	209	13,573	32	12,534.00	88,254.00
Synod of Pittsburg, 5 Classes,	57	120	11,093	8,067	891	89	671	339	9,369	229		75	251	99	7,301	13	6,457.00	45,600.18
German Synod of the East, 5 Classes,	44	39	9,503	5,695	719	1	652	316	7,302	135	20	115	296	39	6,355	4	3,802	63,533.00
Grand Total, 6 Synods : 48 Classes,	746	1,395	161,002	96,147	13,213	1,096	9,113	4,129	133,482	2,249	123	1,503	4,591	1,345	103,511	141	\$73,280.39	\$630,220.80

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NINTH ANNUAL SESSIONS.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Synod of the Potomac

OF THE

REFORMED CHURCH

IN THE

UNITED STATES.

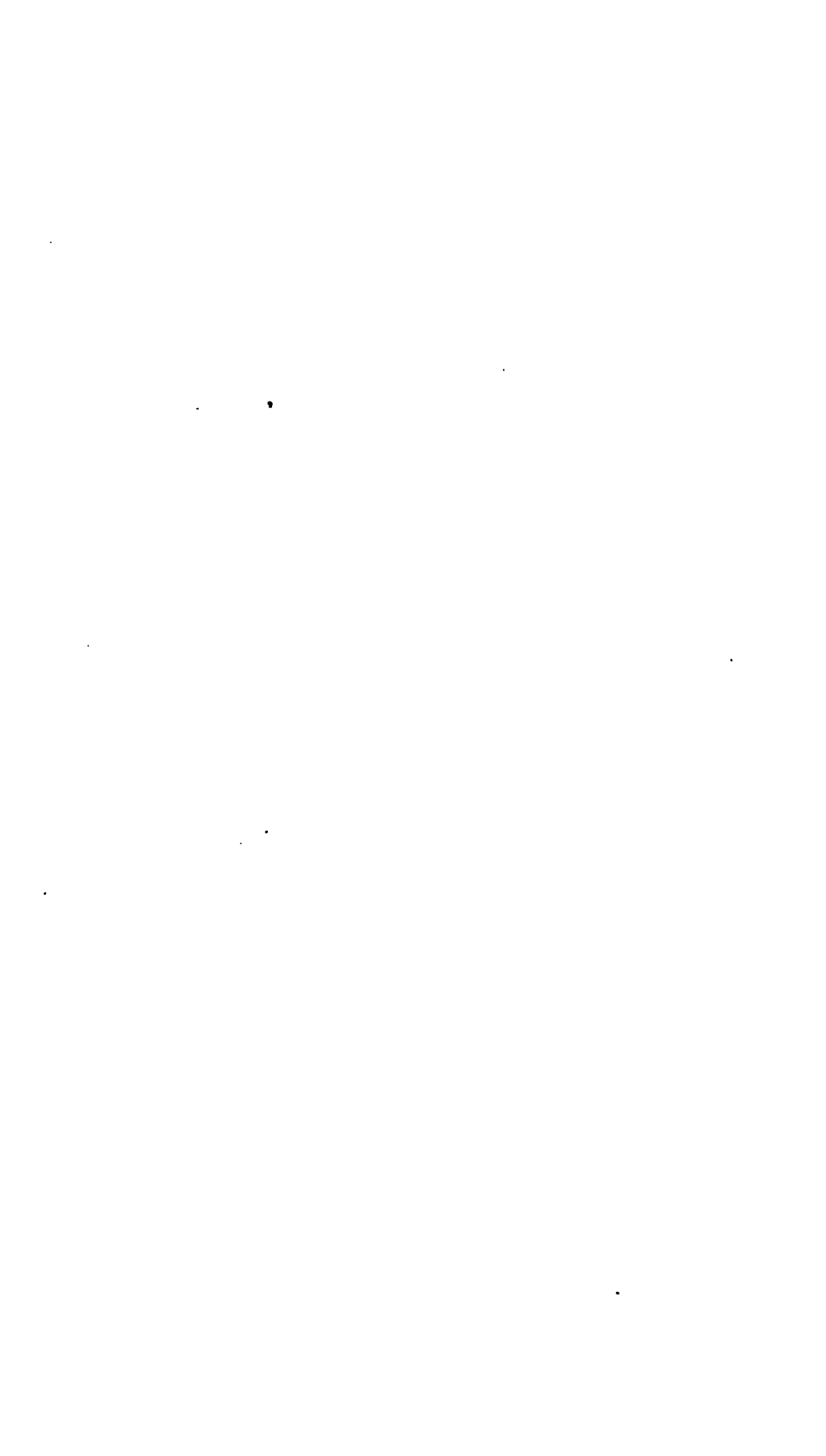
In General Convention.

AT

WAYNESBORO, PA., OCTOBER, 1881.

PHILADELPHIA:

REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD, 907 ARCH STREET,
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ART. IV. RULES OF ORDER.
ART. V. APPOINTMENT OF STANDING COMMITTEES.
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 2. *On Minutes of Synod.*
 3. *On Overtures.*
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 5. *On Examination, Licensure, and Ordination.*
 6. *On the State of Religion and Statistical Reports.*
 7. *On Education.*
 8. *On Missions.*
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Ninth Annual Meeting.

ACTS AND PROCEEDINGS

Of the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States at its Annual Sessions, convened in General Convention, in Waynesboro, Pa., in the month of October, in the year of our Lord One Thousand Eight Hundred and Eighty-One. The Sessions commenced on the evening of the nineteenth and continued until the twenty-fifth day of the month, inclusive, at noon.

ARTICLE I.

OPENING OF SYNOD.

The Synod convened in *General Convention*, on Wednesday evening, October 19th, A. D. 1881, at 7 o'clock, in Trinity Reformed Church of Waynesboro, Franklin county, Pa., pursuant to appointment of last annual meeting, and was opened with appropriate religious services. The President of the previous year, G. W. Martin, D. D., preached the opening sermon from Matt. 16: 18—“And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my Church: and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.”

ARTICLE II.

MEMBERS PRESENT.*

I. FROM THE CLASSIS OF ZION.

Ministers:—Jacob O. Miller, D. D., Reinhart R. Smith, Aaron Spangler, Francis S. Lindaman, Israel S. Weisz, D. D., Moses Kieffer, D. D., Andrew J. Heller, George W. Glessner, D. D., John Kretzing, J. Marion Mickley, Amos H. Kremer, D. D., Frederick J. Sauerber, Silas F. Laury, Henry T. Spangler, David N. Dittmar, George E. Addams, Henry Hilbish, David U. Wolff, Aaron Wanner, D. D., and Walter E. Krebs

Elders:—Samuel Crist, Henry Winebrenner, Aaron Raab, C. Augustus Woltman, John Bixler, George Hollinger, Samuel Wolf, Samuel R. Weaver, George S. Brodbeck, John Hager, Peter Hoover, David Kump, Charles A. Shultz, Martin Thomas, Solomon Snyder, William Wagner, Daniel Stambaugh, and Louis H. Koch.

* A considerable number of the members appeared upon the floor of Synod after the first session. Hence their names do not occur in the order in which they would appear, had they been present at the first roll-call.

II. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

Ministers:—George L. Staley, D. D., Edmund R. Eschbach, D. D., William Goodrich, Simon S. Miller, Nehemiah H. Skyles, Henry Wissler, T. Franklin Hoffmeier, Ambrose C. Geary, John G. Noss, William Rupp, Leighton G. Kremer, Marion L. Firor, Conrad Clever, Charles F. Sontag, William A. Gring, the licentiate George M. Zacharias, Joel T. Rossiter, J. Spangler Kieffer, Joseph W. Santee, D. D., Silas M. Hench, and P. Allison Long.

Elders:—Joseph Seibert, Ezra Williard, Edward D. Zimmerman, George M. Harbaugh, Alexander Weaver, William A. Hagerman, Frederick Yost, John M. Hoffman, Jacob H. Hinea, William W. Lesh, J. Taylor Motter, Goldsboro S. Griffith, Peter Middlekauff, Jacob Sellers, Henry S. Zeller, Mellville E. Doll, and George Harbaugh.

III. FROM THE CLASSIS OF MERCERSBURG.

Ministers:—William M. Deatrick, Isaac G. Brown, Henry Miller, Jacob Hassler, David M. Whitmore, William I. Stewart, Isaac M. Motter, William C. Cremer, Franklin F. Bahner, Henry F. Long, Henry S. Garner, J. Alvin Reber, John M. Titzel, William H. Herbert, Cyrus J. Musser, Cyrus Cort, Calvin S. Slagle, George B. Russell, D. D., Albert G. Dole, Milton H. Sangree, Daniel H. Leader, the licentiate Albert A. Black, and J. David Miller.

Elders:—John P. Reed, Esq., James Rawlings, Abraham Kieffer, David B. Russell, Conrad Glazer, George L. Freet, Henry Stine, Daniel S. Barnhart, Adam Shellhase, Isaac H. Keefer, Benjamin Neff, Henry O. Neal, J. Raum Pague, Samuel Omwake, Henry Mickly, Henry Omwake, and William Dice.

IV. FROM THE CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

Ministers:—George H. Martin, D. D., Henry St. J. Rinker, John A. Hoffheins, Anderson J. Whitmore, Samuel L. Whitmore, Abner R. Kremer, Barton R. Carnahan, and John C. Bowman.

Elders:—George P. Souder, John R. Lantz, John Fitz, George Rosen, Richard W. Kearns, Levi Rinker, Emanuel Staley, Philip P. Hamman, and Henry J. Seibert.

V. FROM THE CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

None present.

VI. FROM THE CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

None present.

VII. FROM THE CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

None present.

ADVISORY MEMBERS.

Theodore Appel, D. D., George W. Aughinbaugh, D. D., and Rev. Charles G. Fisher of the Synod of the Reformed Church in

the United States, Rev. John W. Rauch of the Ohio Synod, Elder David Schriver of Zion's Classis, and Elders Andrew R. Schnebly, Jacob Heyser, John Bowman, and Samuel B. Snively of Mercersburg Classis.

MINISTERS OF OTHER CHURCHES.

The presence of Rev. Dr. Bergstresser, of the Lutheran Church, and Revs. Messrs. Dunkerle and Wilcox, of the Methodist Church, was announced.

ARTICLE III.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

Rev. I. G. Brown, *President*, Mercersburg, Pa.

Rev. A. H. Kremer, *Vice-President*, Carlisle, Pa.

Rev. W. M. Deatrick is *Stated Clerk*, Mercersburg, Pa.

Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, *Corresponding Secretary*, Middletown, Md.

Elder Louis Markell, *Treasurer*, Frederick, Md.

ARTICLE IV.

RULES OF ORDER.

In view of the appointment by the late General Synod of a committee to prepare Rules of Order for the government of the several judicatories of the Reformed Church, in their meetings, it was deemed unnecessary to take action on the Report of the Committee on Rules of Order, which was received at the last meeting of Synod, except in so far as to refer said report to the General Synod's Committee on Rules of Order. The reading of the Rules of Order was dispensed with, and the limits constituting the *Bar of the House* were defined to consist of the first six pews from the chancel railing.

The following hours were fixed for the opening and closing of the current sessions of the Synod, to wit:

The forenoon session to open at 9 and close at 11½ o'clock; the afternoon session to begin at 2 and end at 4½ o'clock. An evening session was held on Monday evening, beginning at 7 o'clock.

ARTICLE V.

STANDING COMMITTEES.

The President appointed the following Standing Committees, to wit:

Religious Services: Revs. F. F. Bahner, I. M. Motter, H. Miller, N. H. Skyles, and Elders D. B. Russell, H. Stine, and E. D. Zimmerman.

Minutes of Synod: Revs. W. M. Deatrick, A. Spangler, A. C. Geary, M. L. Firor, and Elders C. A. Woltman, J. Rawlings, and G. M. Harbaugh.

Minutes of General Synod: Revs. S. S. Miller, F. S. Lindaman, C. Cort, H. T. Spangler, and Elders S. R. Weaver, W. A. Hagerman, and J. Bixler.

Overtures: Revs. J. Hassler, R. R. Smith, F. J. Sauerber, L. G. Kremer, and Elders G. L. Freet, A. Weaver, and A. Raab.

Minutes of Classes: Revs. H. St. J. Rinker, J. Kretzing, J. G. Noss, J. A. Reber, and Elders S. Wolf, W. W. Lesh, and C. Glazer.

Examination, Licensure and Ordination: Revs. Drs. Glessner, Kieffer, Kremer, Staley, and Elders A. Kieffer, G. P. Souder, and E. Williard.

State of Religion and Statistical Reports: Revs. Dr. Martin, Dr. Weisz, J. M. Mickley, D. M. Whitmore, and Elders S. Crist, J. Seibert, and P. Hoover.

Education: Revs. W. A. Gring, Dr. Miller, W. C. Cremer, C. F. Sontag, and Elders J. Hager, J. R. Lantz, and F. Yost.

Missions: Revs. J. M. Titzel, Dr. Eschbach, C. Cort, H. S. Garner, and Elders J. P. Reed, J. H. Hinea, and D. S. Barnhart.

Publication: Revs. W. Rupp, W. Goodrich, Dr. Eschbach, S. F. Laury, and Elders J. M. Hoffman, G. Hollinger, and G. Rosen.

Finance: Revs. A. J. Heller, J. A. Hoffheins, S. L. Whitmore, W. H. Herbert, and Elders C. A. Shultz, J. T. Motter, and A. Shellhase.

Nominations: Revs. T. F. Hoffmeier, D. N. Dittmar, C. Clever, A. J. Whitmore, and Elders J. Fritz, G. S. Brodbeck, and H. Winebrenner.

Ministerial Necrology: Revs. H. Wissler, A. R. Kremer, W. I. Stewart, H. F. Long, and Elders I. H. Keefer, D. B. Russell, and S. Crist.

ARTICLE VI.

COMMUNICATIONS.

1. The Minutes of the Classes of Zion, Maryland, Mercersburg, Virginia, North Carolina, San Francisco, and Portland-Oregon, were received, and referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, except the Reports on the State of Religion and the Statistical Tables, which were referred to the Standing Committee on those subjects.

2. The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited.

3. The Annual Report of the Board of Education was laid before the Synod and read, and was then referred to the Standing Committee on Education for consideration.

4. The Annual Reports of the Board of Visitors and Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary were received and read, and then referred to the same committee, for the same purpose.

5. The Annual Reports of the Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, were received and severally read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Missions for consideration.

6. The Annual Report of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College was received, read and acted on by the Synod without reference.

7. The Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board was laid before the Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Publication for consideration.

8. The Annual Report of the Sunday-school Board was presented to Synod, read and disposed of without reference.

9. Ten other communications were received and referred to the Standing Committee on Overtures.

ARTICLE VII.

RELIGIOUS SERVICES.

The Synod, during its present sessions, observed the following religious services, to wit:

1. The sessions of each day were opened and closed with appropriate religious services.

2. The Standing Committee on Religious Services reported, which was received and adopted, as follows:

Your Committee on Religious Services would respectfully report as follows:

TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH.

Saturday Afternoon.—Preparatory Services: Sermon by Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, assisted by Revs. W. C. Cremer and S. S. Miller. Liturgical service by Rev. L. G. Kremer.

Saturday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. H. Hilbish, assisted by Revs. J. M. Mickly and N. H. Skyles.

Sunday Morning.—Synodical Communion: Sermon by Rev. Dr. Weisz, assisted by Revs. A. G. Dole and A. Spangler. Liturgical services by the President and Stated Clerk of Synod.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school Services; addresses by Revs. Dr. Kremer, G. E. Addams and F. J. Sauerber.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. C. Clever, assisted by Revs. S. M. Hench and D. U. Wolff.

ST. PAUL'S REFORMED CHURCH.

Saturday Afternoon.—Preparatory Services: Sermon by Rev. J. M. Titzel. Liturgical services by Revs. D. N. Dittmar and J. C. Bowman.

Saturday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. J. A. Hoffheins. Liturgical services by Revs. C. F. Sontag and B. R. Carnahan.

Sunday Morning.—Communion services: Sermon by Rev. Dr. Eschbach. Liturgical services by Revs. J. T. Rossiter and A. J. Heller.

Sunday Afternoon.—Sunday-school services; addresses by Revs. J. Hassler, N. H. Skyles and W. Goodrich.

Sunday Evening.—Sermon by Rev. F. J. Sauerber. Liturgical services by Revs. M. L. Firor and W. A. Gring.

OTHER CHURCHES.

Lutheran Church.—Sunday Morning, Rev. J. M. Titzel; Sunday Evening, Rev. W. Goodrich.

Presbyterian Church.—Sunday Morning, Rev. H. T. Spangler; Sunday Evening, Rev. Dr. Kieffer.

Methodist Church.—Sunday Morning, Rev. Dr. Staley; Sunday Evening, Rev. J. D. Miller.

Respectfully submitted.

F. F. BAHNER, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE VIII.

MINUTES OF SYNOD.

The reading of the Minutes of the last Annual Meeting publicly before the Synod was dispensed with, and the printed "Acts and Proceedings" of the last Annual Sessions of the Synod were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod, to report the items of unfinished business that properly claimed the attention of this meeting of the Synod. During the session of Friday morning, this Committee submitted the following report, which was received, considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows, to wit:

I. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF SYNOD.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee, to whom were referred the Printed Minutes of the Synod of last year, after a careful perusal of them, beg leave to report the following items of unfinished business, as, in their judgment, requiring the consideration of the present sessions of the Synod, namely:

Item 1, page 6. After receiving the Report of the Special Committee on the Revision of our Rules of Order, and ordering the Report to be incorporated in the Minutes, further action thereon was postponed until the present annual meeting of the Synod.

Item 2, page 12. A Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology was appointed, whose duty it will be to report at this meeting of the Synod; of which Committee Rev. I. S. Weisz is Chairman.

Item 3, page 31. The Stated Clerk was instructed to communicate to Zion's Classis certain action, having reference to Beneficiary Education, and requesting earnestly said Classis to co-operate with the Board of Education, and to carry on its beneficiary operations, through said Board, in compliance with the Constitution of our Church.

Item 4, page 36. Certain action of the last Synod, in reference to Mercersburg College, in the form of a preamble and resolutions.

Item 5, page 36. It will be necessary for the Synod to fill by election the vacancies that will take place, at the close of the present sessions of the Synod, in the Board of Education, by the expiration of the term of service of Revs. I. G. Brown, W. C. Cremer, and S. N. Callender.

Item 6, page 37. It will be the duty of the Synod to fill by election the vacancies about to occur in the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, of the following members, whose term of office expires during the present month, viz.: Revs. J. S. Kieffer, D. M. Whitmore, and William M. Deatrick; and also of Dr. M. A. Berry, who resigned during the year.

Item 7, page 52. The Synod apportioned \$3875 among the several Classes constituting the Synod for Home Missions.

Item 8, page 52. The several Classes and pastoral charges were urged to take immediate steps to raise and pay the several amounts apportioned to them for the Washington Mission Chapel by the Synod of Hagerstown, in 1878.

Item 9, page 53. The Classes were requested to give special attention to the claims of Missions; to urge the importance of Systematic Benevolence, the further introduction of Missionary Societies in Congregations and Sunday-schools, etc.

Item 10, page 54. It becomes necessary to elect two members of the Synodic Board of Missions, in order to fill the vacancies in said Board, already existing, caused by the expiration of the term of service of Elder G. S. Griffith and Rev. A. H. Kremer, which occurred on the 1st instant.

Item 11, page 56. The Synod made certain specific assessments upon the several Classes for Contingent Purposes.

Item 12, page 57. It will be necessary to elect a member of Synod's Board of Trustees, to fill the place of Dr. L. H. Steiner, whose term of service will expire January 1st, A. D. 1882, according to the Charter.

Item 13, page 58. It becomes necessary to elect a member of the Sunday-school Board, to fill the place of Rev. A. R. Kremer, whose term of office ends at this meeting of the Synod; and also one to fill the vacancy caused by the removal of Rev. D. W. Ebbert within the bounds of another Synod.

Item 14, page 59. The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last annual sessions of the Synod published in pamphlet form, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive Minutes of our Synod.

Item 15, page 63. The Committee appointed by the Synod of Hanover, in 1874, to prepare and publish, jointly with a similar Committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," with music, was continued, with special instructions to have the same published at the earliest practicable time; of which Committee Rev. Dr. Higbee is Chairman.

Item 16, page 65. The Synod requested the Classes within its bounds to order a collection for the benefit of the Society for the Relief of Ministers and Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church, to be taken up in our churches on or about the third Sunday in June last.

Item 17, page 67. Zion's Classis is earnestly requested to take upon themselves their proper apportionment for the Washington Mission Chapel, as allotted at the Synod of Hagerstown in 1878.

Item 18, page 67. The Synod requested those who should be delegated from the several Classes of this Synod to the General Synod in Tiffin, to urge a return to the basis or ratio of ministers, in making the necessary assessments for Contingent Purposes, as the only proper and equitable one.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Chairman.*

For the action of Synod on item 1, see Article IV., Rules of Order; on item 2, see Article XXII., Ministerial Necrology; items 3, 7, 8, 9, 16 and 17 were referred to the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes; on item 4, see Article XIII., Education; items 5, 6, 10, 12 and 13 were referred to the Standing Committee on Nominations, to make the required nominations; on item 11, see Article XV., Finance; on items 14 and 15, see Article XX., Publication; and item 18 was adopted with the statement, that the request had not been complied with.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON MINUTES OF GENERAL SYNOD.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of the General Synod reported during the session of Monday afternoon. The report of the Committee was received, disposed of item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

The Committee on Minutes of General Synod begs leave to report the following items:

Item 1, page 21. The Overture of this Synod to the General Synod, requesting said Synod to return to the basis or ratio of ministers, in making assessments for contingent expenses, was not granted.

Item 2, page 50. The cause of Home Missions is commended to the District

Synods and their Boards, requesting them to take such action as shall increase the activity and efficiency of the Church in this important work.

Item 3, page 50 The General Synod repeats its request, that the Boards of the District Synods report to the Board of the General Synod, at least one month before its triennial meeting, a statement of their labors and their financial condition; and each Synod is also requested to send a copy of its Minutes annually to the General Synod's Board.

Item 4, page 101. The General Synod earnestly requests the District Synods to take such action as may be deemed best to establish Orphan Homes, where necessary, etc.

Item 5, page 111. The General Synod declared the proposed amendments to the Constitution, as sent down to the Classes for approval or rejection, as having been all adopted.

Item 6, page 112. The General Synod requests the District Synods to examine and give an expression of their opinion on the following points of the proposed revision of the Constitution, namely: a) Annual Sessions of the General Synod. b) Election of delegates by the Synods instead of the Classes. c) Concentration of Church-work on Boards appointed by the General Synod.

Item 7, page 159. The General Synod recommends an additional column to the present statistical table, in which the estimated value of Church property shall be given.

Item 8, page 167. The General Synod assessed this Synod in the sum of \$440.00 for contingent purposes.

Item 9, page 168. The attention of the District Synods, delinquent to George Gelbach, former Treasurer of the Church Extension Board, is called to said delinquency.

Item 10, page 170. The General Synod will meet in the Third Reformed Church of Baltimore, Md., on Wednesday Evening, May 7th, A. D. 1884, at 8 o'clock.

Respectfully submitted,

S. S. MILLER, *Chairman.*

Items 1, 2, 4, 5 and 10 were severally adopted; item 3 was adopted, and the attention of the Board of Missions was directed to the matter; item 6 was referred to a Special Committee, consisting of Revs. W. M. Deatrick, Dr. Santee, A. J. Heller, H. St. J. Rinker, Dr. Welker, and Elders G. S. Griffith, C. A. Shultz, and J. R. Pague; item 7 was adopted, and the attention of the Classes called to the matter; item 8 was adopted, and the Committee on Finance was ordered to make the necessary assessment to meet the same; and item 9 was adopted, with the statement that the Synod of the Potomac is not delinquent in the matter, having paid its full apportionment, \$232.00, November 5th, 1874, as per voucher.

ARTICLE IX.

OVERTURES.

The Standing Committee on Overtures presented their report, which was received, acted on item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

The Committee on Overtures beg leave to offer the following report, from letters and papers placed in its hands:

No. 1. An overture from the Iowa Classis, earnestly petitioning this Synod to aid them in their work of missions. The amount asked for is \$500.00.

No. 2. A complaint from the pastor of the York Springs Charge against certain action of Zion's Classis, at its meeting in Bloomfield, Perry county, Pa.

No. 3. A letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Pittsburgh Synod, stating that said Synod had selected the Rev. Dr. Theo. Appel as its choice for Superintendent of Missions for the ensuing term.

No. 4. A letter from the Secretary of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, giving the request of said Board, that all collections taken up for Home Missions, during our present sessions, be sent to the Treasurer of that Board.

No. 5. A statement of the Bethany Orphans' Home, from the President of the Board of Managers and the Superintendent of the Home, presenting the condition and wants of said institution.

No. 6. A request from the Northern Illinois Classis, asking permission to send a financial agent into the bounds of this Synod, with the view of collecting funds for the founding of a College by said Classis.

No. 7. Three petitions from congregations of the York Springs Charge, joining their pastor in his complaint against the action of Zion's Classis, already referred to in this report, under item 2.

No. 8. A communication from Rev. Dr. Wanner, asking the Synod to give a deliverance on the nature of a *complaint*, whether or not it stays the action of the Classis.

No. 9. A letter from Rev. J. Gantenbein, of Portland, Oregon, asking the Synod to excuse his absence, and requesting that the licentiates Albert Kreuter and Frederick Ewald, sent out as missionaries from Basel, Switzerland, to be enrolled as members of the Portland-Oregon Classis.

No. 10. A request from Rev. Henry Miller, asking the Synod to give a deliverance on the propriety of raising funds for missionary and church purposes by means of festivals, excursions, picnics, etc.

Respectfully submitted,

J. HASSLER, *Chairman*.

Item 1 was referred to the Standing Committee on Missions, after the letter had been read. For the action of Synod on items 2 and 7, see Article XVII., Complaints; items 3, 4 and 9 were adopted, the requests being granted; on items 5 and 10, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; item 6 was referred to the Standing Committee on Education for consideration; and the request of Rev. Dr. Wanner, contained in item 8, was answered in the *negative*, *i. e.*, that a complaint does not stay the action of the Classis.

ARTICLE X.

MINUTES OF CLASSES.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes presented their report during the session of Monday afternoon, which was received, disposed of item by item, amended, then adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

DEAR BRETHREN: Your Committee on Minutes of Classes, after a careful examination of the same, find the following items claiming the attention of the Synod:

I. IRREGULARITIES

1. The Classes of Zion, North Carolina, San Francisco, and Portland-Oregon, failed to incorporate the reports of their respective treasurers in their Minutes, as furnished to the Synod.

2. The Classis of North Carolina fails to give the hour at which it convenes next year.

3. The same Classis failed to elect a delegate secundus to the late General Synod.

II. REQUESTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. Zion's Classis requests the formation of three Classes out of their present territory.

5. Virginia Classis requests that the Synod allow her to use the balance of a missionary apportionment of \$150 00 within her own bounds.

6. San Francisco Classis requests the Synod to give its attention to the large cities along the Pacific coast, as affording an inviting field for Missionary effort.

7. Portland-Oregon Classis requests the Synod to establish a German Professorship in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa.

8. The same Classis requests the Synod to exonerate her from the apportionment of \$25.00 for Home Missions.

III. APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS.

9. The Rev. A. Wanner complains to the Synod of the action of Zion's Classis in the division of his pastoral charge.

IV. SUBJECTS REFERRED TO THE CLASSES.

10. All the Classes took favorable action upon the subjects referred to them.

11. The Virginia Classis returns a vote of thanks to the Synod for its favorable action in reference to the missionary work within the bounds of the Classis.

12. Portland-Oregon Classis expresses, in tender terms, its sincere gratitude to the Synod for its very warm expression of sympathy in its behalf.

V. LICENSED, ORDAINED, RECEIVED AND DISMISSED.

13. Zion's Classis licensed Calvin S. Slagle and dismissed him to the Mercersburg Classis; received the licentiate Alfred F. Dreisbach from the East Pennsylvania Classis, and ordained him to the Holy Ministry; received the Rev. Henry T. Spangler from the Eastern Ohio Classis, the Rev. Walter E. Krebs from the East Susquehanna Classis, and the Rev. David N. Dittmar from the Mercersburg Classis; and dismissed the Rev. William F. Colliflower to the Maryland Classis.

14. Maryland Classis received the Revs. William A. Gring and Jacob B. Kerschner from the Mercersburg Classis, the Rev. William F. Colliflower from the Zion's Classis of this Synod, and the Rev. Henry W. Hoffmeier from the Clarion Classis; and dismissed the Rev. Abner R. Kremer to the Virginia Classis.

15. Mercersburg Classis licensed Edgar S. Hassler, George B. Resser, and Albert A. Black; received the licentiates Cyrus J. Musser from the Somerset Classis, and Calvin S. Slagle from Zion's Classis of this Synod, and ordained them to the work of the Holy Ministry; received George B. Russell, D. D., from the Maryland Classis, and the Rev. Cyrus Cort from the Iowa Classis; and dismissed the licentiate Samuel H. Eisenberg to the Westmoreland Classis, the Rev. David N. Dittmar to Zion's Classis of this Synod, the Rev. Henry I. Comfort to the Miami Classis, the Rev. David W. Ebbert to the Philadelphia Classis, Elnathan E. Higbee, D. D., and the licentiate George F. Mull to the Lebanon Classis, the Revs. Wm. A. Gring and Jacob B. Kerschner to the Maryland Classis, and the licentiate George B. Resser to the Lancaster Classis of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States.

16. Virginia Classis received the Rev. Abner R. Kremer from the Maryland Classis.

17. North Carolina Classis licensed Paul Barringer, and ordained him to the Holy Ministry; received the Rev. G. Dickey Gurley from the Westmoreland Classis; and dismissed the Rev. Julius H. Shuford to the Shelby Classis.

18. San Francisco Classis received the Rev. Charles Hartman from the Indiana Classis.

19. Portland-Oregon Classis received the licentiates Albert Kreuter and Frederick Ewald from the Reformed Church of Switzerland.

VI. PLACE AND TIME OF THE NEXT ANNUAL MEETINGS OF THE CLASSES.

20. Zion's Classis will meet in Trinity Reformed Church, York, York county, Pa., on Tuesday, May 30th, A. D. 1882, at 10 o'clock A. M. Rev. H. Hilbish, *President*; Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder C. A. Shultz, *Treasurer*.

21. Maryland Classis will meet in Middletown, Frederick county, Md., on Wednesday, May 31st, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock P. M. Rev. T. F. Hoffmeier, *President*; and Rev. S. S. Miller, *Stated Clerk and Treasurer*.

22. Mercersburg Classis will meet in Mercersburg, Franklin county, Pa., on Wednesday, May 10th, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock P. M. Rev. W. C. Cremer, *President*; and Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, *Stated Clerk and Treasurer*.

23. Virginia Classis will meet in Middlebrook, Augusta county, Va., on Wednesday, May 17th, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock P. M. Rev. A. J. Bowers, *President*; Rev. B. R. Carnahan, *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, *Treasurer*.

24. North Carolina Classis will meet in Mt. Zion Church, Rowan county, N. C., on Thursday, May 11th, A. D. 1882, at — o'clock. Rev. M. L. Hedrick, *President*; G. W. Welker, D. D., *Stated Clerk*; and Rev. T. Long, *Treasurer*.

25. San Francisco Classis will meet in St. John's Church, San Francisco, Cal., on Friday, June 2d, A. D. 1882, at 8 o'clock P. M. Rev. J. Fuendeling, *President*; Rev. C. F. Waldecker, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder P. Weiland, *Treasurer*.

26. Portland-Oregon Classis will meet in St. Peter's Reformed Church at Beaver Creek, Oregon City, Clackamas county, Oregon, on Thursday, June 8th, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock P. M. Rev. J. Muellhaupt, *President*; Rev. J. Lange, *Stated Clerk*; and Elder F. Koellermeier, *Treasurer*.

Respectfully submitted,

HY. ST. J. RINKER, *Chairman*.

Items 1, 2, 3, 5, 6, and 10 to 26 inclusive, were severally adopted. For the action of the Synod on item 4, see Article XIX., Church Government; on items 7 and 8, see Article XXI., Miscellaneous; and on item 9, see Article XVII., Complaints.

ARTICLE XI.

EXAMINATION, LICENSURE AND ORDINATION.

The Standing Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination reported as follows, which was adopted, to wit:

The Committee on Examination, Licensure and Ordination report that there has been nothing for the Committee to do.

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. W. GLESSNER, *Chairman*.

ARTICLE XII.

STATE OF RELIGION AND STATISTICAL REPORTS.

The Standing Committee on the State of Religion and Statistical Reports presented the following report, during the session of Monday evening, which was received, amended, and adopted, and is as follows :

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON STATE OF RELIGION—SYNOD OF POTOMAC.

Reverend Fathers and Brethren: Through the mercy of God, we have been permitted to meet once more as a Synod, to hear and tell what God has done for us and wrought by us, and in our midst, and to devise means and measures, looking to the building up, increase and prosperity of our Reformed Zion. Through dangers seen and unseen, through difficulties and trials, often sore and severe, and amidst the shafts of death which are flying all around us, striking down one here and another there, God has safely led us on and brought us here. And here we are to-day, ministers and elders, the monuments of God's watchful, preserving, and loving care. Well may each one of us exclaim: "What shall I render unto the Lord for all His benefits toward me?" and, "Bless the Lord, O my soul: and all that is within me, bless His holy name."

We are called on, and it is meet and right for us so to do, to thank God that we are permitted to meet as brethren, to dwell together, deliberate, and consult with each other in unity and peace. Thank God, that the peace movement, which was inaugurated over three years ago, has been happily consummated, and that peace and harmony now reign throughout the length and breadth of the Church. Instead of wasting their energies in fruitless controversies, unhallowed bickerings and strife, the brethren can *now*, and do *now*, as the Classical reports, in the opinion of your committee, clearly show, employ themselves more in working for God, for the salvation of souls, and for the prosperity and good of the Church.

Now, as a consequence, in part, of the reign of peace and harmony throughout the Church, the reports of the different Classes come to us fraught with glad tidings—with good news. They tell us, that God has prospered us, and blessed the labors of His ministering servants, during the past year, to an extent, and in a degree, not known in any previous year of the history of this Synod. They tell us, that in every department of Church work, and in every interest pertaining to such work, considerable progress has been made; that ministers and people have not been asleep, nor standing idle in the vineyard of the Lord; that our people are becoming more and more alive to their duty, and, to an encouraging degree, have been doing what their hands found to do; that ministers have been alive to the responsibilities resting on them, as God's ambassadors, and faithful to their ordination vows; that they have been active, earnest and zealous, in discharging the duties of their calling, in preaching the Gospel, in visiting the sick and dying, and administering to them the consolations of religion, in catechising the young and receiving members into the Church, and in administering the sacraments. And their labors, it appears, were not in vain, but resulted in producing much fruit to the glory of God, in the numbers brought to a knowledge of the truth, made savingly acquainted with Christ, and in the edification and growth in grace of believers.

The reports, that have come down to us from the different Classes, inform us, that an unusual number of new churches have been built during the last year, and many old ones repaired and beautified. This, too, certainly has its significance. Say not, that all this is in the interest of pride and vain show.

It evidences, that there is a right spirit at work amongst our people. Where there is no love for God's house, no interest taken in its proper comeliness, decency and beauty; where there is no desire that God may have a house worthy His glorious character and name, *there* is very little true piety—little of the spirit of true devotion. If we love God, we will certainly love the house in which He is worshipped, and where He meets and blesses His people. Where there is no true reverence for God, there is no reverence for the house in which He has recorded His name, and in which He dwells. How can we feel right, and worship God aright, in spirit and in truth, in an unsightly, unconely, and filthy house of worship? Where there is true zeal for God, there certainly is zeal for His sanctuary—a zeal that has regard for, and looks to, its beauty and comeliness.

The grace of liberality has abounded amongst our people during the past year, and abounded to a greater extent than in any previous year. The different objects of benevolence were remembered and tolerably well sustained and supported, (*tolerably well sustained and supported in comparison with the support they received in former years.*) Would to God, that this grace—the grace of liberality—may abound still more and more, and that our people may soon be brought to see and feel, that they are not their own, but belong to their faithful Saviour, Jesus Christ, and that all they have belongs to Him, and should be consecrated to His service and cause. The language of one Classical report is: "An advance has been made on the part of our people in liberality. The pastors present all came prepared to meet the assessments laid by Classis on their several charges, and some of them have gone considerably beyond what they were asked by Classis to do, in order to meet the pressing wants of the Church." Another Classical report says: "We notice, with special pleasure, the increased benevolence of the churches. The cause of Missions, Home and Foreign, has been more faithfully remembered than usual." The report coming from another Classis conveys the pleasing intelligence, that within the bounds of that Classis, "the amounts raised for the different benevolent objects and interests of the Church have been much increased over that of former years." It says further: "It is with joy we hail the increasing spirit of liberality, for it is evidently indicative of growth in spiritual life, light and love." The acts and proceedings of another Classis, at its last annual meeting, reveal the fact, that, within the bounds of that Classis, "the duty of giving is better understood."

Our brethren on the Pacific coast are not idle, but doing all they can to push forward the work committed to their hands. In spite of the limited means at their disposal,—in spite of the difficulties with which they have to contend, and of many discouragements, they are doing a good work. The truth is, taking all things into consideration, they are doing remarkably well. They deserve the gratitude of the Church for their self-denying efforts and labors to extend the boundaries of, and build up, the Reformed Church in those remote regions of our land.

From the different Classical reports we gather the gratifying intelligence, that our people are becoming more and more interested in Foreign missionary work, and more and more disposed in the way of sympathy, and by their money and prayers, to further the good cause of Foreign Missions, and sustain our missionary now in the foreign field. This is as it should be. We need not look for much success in our efforts to build up our Church at home, if we shut up our bowels of compassion from the benighted heathen, and close our ears against the Macedonian cry, coming up to us from the dark corners of the earth: "Come over and help us."

Your Committee is glad to report increased interest on the part of ministers and people in the Sunday-school cause. Conventions have been held, and various other means and methods employed for the purpose of waking up our people to a lively sense of the importance of Sunday-schools, and stirring them

up to increased activity in Sunday-school work. The language of one of the Classical reports, in reference to this subject, is as follows: "We notice with great pleasure, that the Sunday-school work of the Classis is receiving special care and attention on the part of the ministry and people. Conventions have been held in each district, and new energy awakened by their influence." So say pretty much all the reports.

One of our ministerial brethren has gone to his reward since we last met. The Rev. John H. Sykes was called suddenly and unexpectedly away after his return home from the last meeting of Synod. In the midst of his usefulness and labors he was summoned to his reward. In the language of Wesley,

"His labors with his life laid down,
He ceased at once to work and live."

And here it is well also to make mention of the death of the Rev. Dr. Fisher. Though not a member of this Synod, still it is proper, on account of a long life spent in the service of the Church, and his many and valuable services rendered to the Church, to make honorable mention of his name here. He died away from his home, in Tiffin, Ohio, shortly after the adjournment of the General Synod. It becomes us all to lay to heart the admonition of the Saviour: "Therefore be ye also ready; for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh."

But, alas! we have not all sweet to offer you. We have not all good news. With the sweet there is also a little that is bitter. With the good evil is always mixed. Sorrow is often mingled with our joys, and pain with pleasure. So it always has been in this world, and so we may expect it to be as long as the world stands. There is no pleasure here without being received, to a certain extent, with pain, and no sweet without its bitter. The reports coming down to us from the different Classes, whilst they contain much that is encouraging and comforting, much to cheer our hearts, much to awaken hope for the future, and much to stimulate us to renewed exertion in time to come, they contain much also that is calculated to sadden the heart. The Church is, and will be, as long as she is in this world, militant. In her, darkness will be mingled with light, error with truth, evil with good, righteousness and holiness with sin, as long as she is in her militant state. And it is certain, judging from the classical reports, that our branch of the Church, as well as other branches of the Church Catholic, has not yet reached her proper status, and attained her proper position in the sight of God, and in the scale of Christian perfection. She is still lacking in many respects—still far from being what she ought to be. She has still enough to lament over. She has still to mourn over the imperfections, short-comings and sins of her members; of indifference on the part of many towards her ordinances, means of grace, and things spiritual, divine and heavenly; to mourn because so many within our fold dishonor their profession, and do not walk worthy of the calling wherewith they were called; to lament and mourn because many within her pale love the world more than they love God, and because greed for the world prevents them from discharging their duty to God and the Church, in the way of liberally supporting and sustaining every good cause.

"Now unto Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, unto Him be glory in the Church, by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen."

Respectfully submitted,

GEO. H. MARTIN, *Chairman.*

[For Statistical Tables see Appendix.]

ARTICLE XIII.

EDUCATION.

The Board of Education presented its annual report to the Synod during Thursday forenoon's session, which was received, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Education. The report, is as follows, to wit:

I. REPORT OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Board of Education begs leave to present to the Synod the following report of its operations, during the past synodical year:

At its meeting in Woodstock, held near the close of the last annual sessions of the Synod, the Board was organized by the re-election of the officers of the previous year, and by the re-appointment of the same Executive Committee.

The Board had under its care and supervision, during the last synodical year, seven beneficiary students. Four of these pursued their studies in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa. Two of them completed the full three years' course in the Seminary last May, and were regularly graduated from that institution. On the day following their graduation, they were duly licensed to preach the gospel by the Mercersburg Classis, at an adjourned meeting held in Chambersburg, Pa.

One of the theological students, by permission of the Board, and also of the Classis aiding him, was allowed to intermit his studies in the Middle Class of the Seminary last January, with the view of spending a year or two in teaching, and then resuming and concluding his theological studies.

At the present time, the Board has only four beneficiaries to furnish with funds. One of these is a member of the Senior and another a member of the Junior Class in the Seminary. And one is in the Senior Class and the remaining one in the Junior Class of Franklin and Marshall College. Thus it will be seen, that in less than a year hence the Board will have under its care only three beneficiary students, unless, in the mean time, others are received under its supervision and care.

By a careful examination of the Minutes of the General Synod and the several District Synods, the painful fact becomes apparent, that there is, at the present time, a gradual diminution going on in the number of young men preparing themselves for the gospel ministry in our Church. Whilst the borders of our Zion are being extended, and the demand for thoroughly equipped workmen is increasing, the number of those in a regular course of training for the needed work is gradually growing less from year to year. Pastoral charges also are being divided and new ones formed. Efficient pastors likewise are being removed by the hand of death. At the present time, the number of candidates for the ministry in our branch of the Church catholic is not adequate to supply these demands, let alone meet a true missionary spirit, such as should by all means characterize us. If this state of affairs is suffered to continue, it will not be long until the Reformed Church can disband her Boards of Education and close her Theological Seminaries. Is it right and proper, beloved brethren of the Synod, for us to close our eyes against such solemn facts as these, which so painfully confront us, and not endeavor, as Christian men, to meet them?

A living personal ministry is absolutely essential to the existence of the Church among men. Now, as in the Apostolic age, the Church rests, not on abstract confession or given system of theology, but on a living personal ministry—on the foundation of the Apostles and Prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief corner-stone. An ordained ministry, acting under an apostolic

commission, and presenting to men, continually from age to age, the mysteries of grace through their office, divinely originated, and of truly supernatural character and force, must be maintained by any Church which claims to act in the name of Christ for the salvation of men. Nothing, therefore, can be of more profound and solemn concern to the Reformed Church, than the fact which so painfully challenges it, in an actual and marked decrease in the number of those preparing for the work of the holy ministry.

In order to secure candidates for the sacred office, there must be a prevailing consecration to the Church among our people, such as will serve to challenge our young men as a voice from Christ Himself, to set themselves apart for the Lord, to prepare for the work of the Christian ministry. And just here the question confronts us, How can this necessary spirit of consecration to the Church of Christ be more universally enkindled among our people, that our young men may, at all times, be called out and stimulated to dedicate themselves to the ministry, as called thereto by the very community where they are? Of course, much is dependent here upon the earnest activity of our pastors. As were St. Paul and his co-laborers, so must they be anxious to devote the first fruits of their labors, of their catechisation and pastoral supervision and visitation, especially to the office of the ministry. They must keep steadily before their faith that the richest bloom of their whole work is that of having pointed and carried forward their spiritual sons to the rank of co-laborers with themselves in the vineyard of the Lord.

And, if at all earnest in our work of securing students to study and prepare themselves for ordination, we cannot, of course, fail, at the same time, to be equally interested in the matter of securing the necessary funds to assure the full education of the same for their solemn and responsible work. The two are, in our mind, inseparable. Most signally, too, in the case of the ministry, has the declaration of the Saviour shown profound truthfulness, that "the poor always ye have with you." It is emphatically from the ranks of the poor, in a great majority of cases, that the candidates for the ministry in the Reformed Church come. The office itself, which involves the idea of great self-denial, seems to necessitate this. "Not many wise men after the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble are called."

The whole subject is respectfully referred to the most earnest and prayerful consideration of the Synod, now in session.

The Board thankfully acknowledges the receipt, a few months since, of \$300.00, being a part of the bequest of Samuel Bussard, formerly an elder in the Friend's Cove Church of Bedford county, Pa., who died several years ago.

The Treasurer of the Board gratefully acknowledges the receipt of the following contributions for Beneficiary Education, during the last fiscal year. The aggregate sum contributed by each pastoral charge is given, omitting the items and dates of payment:

SYNOPSIS OF TREASURER'S REPORT.

Maryland Classis.

Sunday-school of Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick, Anniversary Offering	\$95 67
Evangelical Reformed Church of Frederick	92 16
First Church of Baltimore	45 00
Hagerstown Charge	42 40
Middletown Charge	40 00
Cavetown Charge	30 00
Third Church of Baltimore	30 00
Manchester Charge	25 00
Mechanicstown Charge	18 00
St. Paul's Church of Baltimore	17 50

Mount Moriah Charge	15 00
Jefferson Charge	15 00
Westminster Charge	9 08
Mount Pleasant Charge	5 00

Amount \$479 81

Mercersburg Classis.

Chambersburg Charge	\$50 00
Waterstreet "	50 00
Bedford "	45 00
Yellow Creek "	25 00
Greenfield "	24 65
Orbisonia "	24 00
Woodcock Valley "	23 00
St. Thomas "	20 00
Mont Alto "	20 00
Martinsburg "	15 00
Greencastle "	15 00
Altoona "	15 00
Waynesboro "	13 50
Huntingdon "	13 35
Everett "	10 54
Loudon "	10 07
St. Clairsville "	10 00
Friend's Cove "	10 00
Sulphur Spring "	10 00
Clover Creek "	5 00
Hickory Bottom "	6 00
St. John's Church of Chambersburg	5 00
Shippensburg Charge	5 00
McConnellsburg "	3 00
Schellsburg "	1 74

Amount \$429 85

Virginia Classis.

Interest on Absalom Rinker legacy, per Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, Treas. . \$160 00

Bequests.

Bequest, in part, of Samuel Bussard, late of Friend's Cove, Pa. . \$300 00
Int. on Jacob Stoudenour legacy for one year, per Treas. of Synod . 12 00

RECAPITULATION.

Summary of Receipts.

October 11, 1880. Balance in Treasury	\$276 10
Received from Maryland Classis	479 81
" " Mercersburg	429 85
Part of bequest of Samuel Bussard	300 00
Interest on Absalom Rinker's legacy	160 00
Interest on Jacob Stoudenour's legacy	12 00

Total Receipts \$1,657 76

Summary of Payments.

Paid beneficiary students of Mercersburg Classis	\$356 25
“ “ Maryland Classis	337 50
“ “ Virginia Classis	175 00
Postage, revenue stamps, etc.	2 21
October 17, 1881. Balance in Treasury	786 80
Total payments	\$1,657 76
Respectfully submitted by	

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION.

We hereby do certify, that we have carefully audited the account of Rev. William M. Deatrick, Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Synod of the Potomac, by vouchers, and find the same to be correct.

The foregoing Synopsis and Recapitulation are a true and faithful statement of the same. There is a balance in the Treasury, at this date, of \$786.80.

Mercersburg, Pa., October 17, 1881.

I. G. BROWN, }
J. HASSLER, } *Committee.*

II. REPORT OF BOARD OF VISITORS OF THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

The following is the Report of the Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary, as furnished by the Secretary of the Board, to wit:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Dear Brethren: The Board of Visitors of the Theological Seminary presents to your honorable body through the undersigned, the following as their Annual Report:

At the opening of the Seminary in September one year ago, the following persons were admitted as members of the Junior Class, fourteen in number: Solomon A. Alt, Benjamin F. Bausman, William F. Faber, Geo. W. Gerhard, Daniel N. Harnish, John N. Hoobaugh, Alfred P. Horn, Charles W. Levan, Henry H. Saugus, David B. Schneder, Frank W. Smith, Adam S. Weber, Jairus A. Wickert and George A. Zeller. The Rev. S. Olin Garrison, an ordained minister of the Methodist Episcopal Church, having previously pursued his studies in the Drew Seminary of his own Church, wishing to avail himself of the opportunity afforded him as missionary in the city of Lancaster, to complete his theological studies, was admitted to the privileges of the Seminary, and he finished his studies with the Senior Class.

As a matter of regret we state that several of the students were under the necessity of absenting themselves from the Seminary during the whole or a part of the year on account of ill health, or because they found it necessary to engage in teaching in order to increase their funds for their support in the future. The conduct and diligence of the students in the discharge of their duties have, as a general thing, been good and commendable. They seek to make themselves useful in the Sunday School, and during the year, a new interest has been awakened among them in the cause of missions and fostered in their weekly meetings. The examinations at the close of the year were listened to with much interest by the Board, and were approved as satisfactory.

The members of the Senior Class, having completed the prescribed course of studies, and sustained their final examination creditably in the presence of the Board, received the regular certificate of dismissal prepared for this purpose, setting forth these facts, at the Anniversary of the Seminary in May last. They are eleven in number, and their names are as follows: Albert A. Black, T. A.

Fenstermacher, S. Olin Garrison, Edwin A. Gernant, Edgar S. Hassler, Cosmos H. Herbst, Newton J. Miller, Cyrus J. Musser, George B. Resser, Calvin S. Slagle and Joshua Wolbach. Most of them have entered upon the active duties of the ministry, and are occupying fields of usefulness in the Church.

The Board is satisfied with the work done by the Seminary during the past year, and believe that there is cause for gratitude and thanksgiving to the Head of the Church for the measure of prosperity, with which He has hitherto favored our School of the Prophets. The whole number of students reported in the annual catalogue, present and absent, was 31.

Hitherto the Board of Visitors has been acting in the capacity of a Board of Education, but in accordance with the action of the Synod of the U. S., last year, the members of the Board of Visitors belonging to that Synod, have organized themselves into a Board of Education, which will hereafter transact its business apart from the sessions of the Board. The report of the Treasurer is annexed to this report.

The Secretary is further instructed to direct the attention of said Synod to the following action of the Board of Visitors at its last Annual Meeting.

Resolved, That the President of the Board be instructed to draw an order on the Treasurer of the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary in favor of Dr. Theodore Appel for \$40 for salary as Secretary of the Board for two years, ordered to be paid by the Synod at its last Annual Meeting at Meyers-town, Pa., and also \$20 as salary for the present year, and likewise an order on said Treasurer in favor of the President for expenses incurred in the transmission of sermons of the graduating class through the mail and per express—amounting to \$2.31—as ordered by the Synod at the above meeting.

Resolved, That in case the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary refuses to honor the above orders, the Secretary of the Board be instructed to incorporate the fact in the annual report of this Board to Synod by way of complaint.

In accordance with the last of these resolutions, I hereby inform the Synod, that the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary has refused to honor the orders above referred to when presented to him. I further state that he has refused to pay an order drawn on him by the President of the Board for \$10.00, the amount needed to pay for the new diploma or "certificate of dismission" prepared by the Secretary as ordered by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL, *Sec'y of the Board.*

III. REPORTS OF THE BOARDS OF TRUSTEES OF THE THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY AND TREASURER.

The following Reports were received from the Board of Trustees and of the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary, to wit:

To the Synod of the Potomac:

Brethren: The Board of Trustees of Theological Seminary respectfully present their Annual Report:

The usual meetings have been held during the year, and the routine business of the Board has been transacted.

We received a copy of the action of the Synod of the U. S., directing our Treasurer "to pay all orders drawn on him by the President of the Board of Visitors, for all incidental and legitimate expenses incurred by the Board in the transaction of its business."

We have not complied with this action of said Synod for the very sufficient reason that we are about three hundred dollars short of necessary funds to pay the legitimate expenses of the Seminary proper, and we do not understand the action of Synod to mean that these drafts upon our Treasurer shall take precedence of regular standing obligations, such as Professors' salaries, coal,

light, etc., incurred in running the Institution. We doubt, also, the authority of the Synod of the United States, to pass such action without the concurrence of the other two Synods represented in both the Board of Trustees and Board of Visitors of the Seminary.

Since our last report, some of our investments have been paid, and we have been compelled to reinvest at 5 per cent. interest, and at this time we are notified by holders of \$13,000 of our funds, that unless we allow them to keep their loans at 5 per cent., they will pay them. Our experience is only the same as others. The Treasurer of the Synod of the U. S. has had to invest at the same rate of interest, and so also the Finance Committee of Franklin and Marshall College.

About \$4,000 of our endowment fund bears no interest and is practically worthless, consisting of Classical notes, etc., which by tacit consent the Synod of the U. S. has never authorized us to push to collection, if indeed they are collectable.

Another source of unavoidable expense is the keeping up the Professors' houses. The heating apparatus and other absolutely necessary repairs this year will amount to over \$200 in excess of our regular expenses for repairs. In view of these facts, we think that instead of adding to the drafts upon our Treasurer, it may be necessary, in the near future, for Synod to furnish us aid, that we may be able to meet the legitimate and unavoidable expenses incurred in running the Institution. Two years ago, the Synod of the U. S. passed an action requesting the congregations to pay to our Treasurer the proceeds of one collection during the year. The total receipts from this source were \$24.09. From this it appears that nearly every Pastor present at that meeting of Synod and voting for this action went home to his charge and ignored the request of Synod.

We call the attention of Synod to the fact that the Seminary property at Mercersburg, Pa., leased by this Synod to the Regents of Mercersburg College, has been advertised for sale by the Sheriff of Franklin county during the current year. The Regents of Mercersburg College have mortgaged the lease, and on this mortgage judgment has been obtained, and the Sheriff advertised it for sale. We consider the property in danger so long as this mortgage is suffered to remain. It is for the Synods to determine if any action is needed to protect their interests in this property. If it should be sold under this mortgage, it may pass out of the control of our Church.

Respectfully submitted,

D. W. GROSS, *President.*
JNO. B. ROTH, *Treasurer.*
EDW. J. ZAHM, *Rec. Secretary.*

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 6th, 1881.

The following is the statement of the Treasurer referred to in the above report:

II. TREASURER'S REPORT.

JOHN B. ROTH, *Treasurer of the Theological Seminary, in acct., Dr.*

Endowment Fund, Oct. 1, 1881.

Total of Fund	\$69,299 76
Of this sum \$2,000 yields no interest.	

Dr.

For sundry interests received from Oct. 1, 1880, to Oct. 1, 1881 . .	\$4,946 99
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Cr.

By sundry bills and salary paid per vouchers to	
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Seminary Board	\$6 382 66
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Amount Dr. brought down	4,946 99
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Balance due Treasurer Oct. 1, 1881	\$1,435 67
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Library Fund.

Amount of Fund \$2,069 96

Oct. 1, 1881. For sundry interest received to date and in hand . . \$245 42

CR.

Oct. 1, 1881. By sundry bills paid to date 115 54

Balance in hands of Treasurer 129 88

Smaltz Fund.

Amount of Fund \$5,000 00

DR.

Oct. 1, 1881. For balance in hand Oct. 1, 1880, and sundry interest received to date \$333 39

CR.

Oct. 1, 1881. By sundry orders paid by Treasurer 333 39

Building Fund.

Oct. 1, 1880. Amount reported to Board 12,396 05

March 24, 1881. Note paid 300 00

Total of Fund Oct. 1, 1881 \$12,696 05

Pittsburgh Prof. Fund.

Oct. 1, 1881. Amount of Fund \$1,718 30

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN B. ROTH, *Treas.*

Lancaster, Oct. 1, 1881.

The undersigned Auditing Committee having examined the Treasurer's accounts and compared his vouchers, find them correct.

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 1, 1881.

GEO. W. HENSEL,
EDW'D J. ZAHM.

IV. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION.

The Standing Committee on Education, to whom the foregoing Report of the Board of Education, and Reports of the Board of Visitors, Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., and Treasurer, had been referred, reported during the session of Monday evening. Their report was considered item by item, adopted as a whole, and is as follows:

Your Committee on Education have had placed in their hands reports from the Board of Education, the Board of Visitors, the Board of Trustees of the Theological Seminary, with their Treasurer's account, and a letter from the Corresponding Secretary of the Northern Illinois Classis.

In the Report of the Board of Education, the fact of a very limited number of students for the ministry, at this time under the care of the Board, is urged upon the attention of Synod. It is the principal consideration of the report; and which is the more earnest for the reason, that the small number of men from our own territory is but the showing of what obtains in the Church at large. The cause is doubtless a local and definite one; but it is the more alarming, as the Board indicates, in view of the fact that it is not simply local—a temporary reaction it may be of a former effort in this direction, or some other cause peculiar to ourselves, but that we are passing under a more for-

midable and subtle power of the evil affecting the general life of the Church. The Board has looked into the matter carefully, as gathered from the Minutes of the General Synod and the several District Synods, and says, that there is a gradual diminution in the number of young men preparing for the ministry.

On this account it becomes us to give special attention to this particular part of our work, and your committee proposes that the following resolution be adopted:

Resolved, That the Synod hereby solemnly counsels its Pastors and Elders to keep in mind this important part of their work of selecting and bringing up suitable young men for the ministry; and that, as a necessary part of this work, they continue to commend and urge upon our people the cause of Beneficiary Education.

The Report mentions also the receipt of \$300.00, as a part of the bequest of Samuel Bussard, of the Friend's Cove congregation, and your committee propose the following action with regard to it:

Resolved, That this act of testatory benevolence meets the cordial approval of the Synod, and is commended as a good example of Christian love.

The Board of Visitors of the Seminary report, that it is satisfied with the work done during the past year. Eleven students were graduated. The whole number catalogued for the past year is thirty one.

The Board of Trustees of the Seminary inform us, that they are about \$300.00 short of funds to meet the standing obligations—such as professors' salaries, coal, light, etc.—and that there will be for the year ensuing an unavoidable expense of over \$200.00 in excess, for regular repairs at the professors' houses. They say, moreover, that some of their investments were paid them, and could be reinvested at no higher rate of interest than five per cent.; that they have been notified by holders of \$13,000.00, that unless they may hold their loans at five per cent. they will be paid. Your committee propose the following resolutions for adoption:

Resolved, That this Synod has full confidence in the financial and moral ability with regard to the Seminary funds, and simply asks that the best be done that can be done.

Resolved, That this Synod assume one-third of last year's deficiency, that is \$100.00, and that this sum be referred to the Committee on Finance, for apportionment among the Classes.

From this same Report we learn, that the necessary expenditures of the Board of Visitors have not been paid. The Board of Trustees, for want of funds for one reason, refused to pay these expenses; and for another, they do not feel themselves authorized to pay them, excepting they be directed by the several Synods conjointly interested, and represented in the Boards of Trustees and Visitors. Your committee thinks that these expenses ought to be provided for and paid promptly, and offers for adoption the following resolution:

Resolved, That this Synod concurs with the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States in directing the Treasurer of the Theological Seminary to pay the order of the President of the Board of Visitors for necessary expenses, and that this Synod will meet its proper portion, when informed of the amount due.

From the same Report we are also informed that the Seminary property at Mercersburg is in danger, on account of a mortgage given by the Board of Regents on the Lease; on which mortgage judgment has been obtained. The Board thinks that it is the business of the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, with the concurrence of the other two Synods, to determine whether any action is needed to protect the interests of this property. Your committee thought proper to note this fact, but thinks that no action in this connection is necessary, since the Synod has canvassed this whole subject already, and made provision against the troubles referred to. But your com-

mittee thinks also, that the Corresponding Secretary ought to be directed to inform the Board of Trustees of what has been done.

In answer to the request of the Northern Illinois Classis, by a letter from its Corresponding Secretary, to permit an agent to enter the territory of this Synod for funds for the founding of a College at Foreston, Ogle county, Ill., we offer the following:

Resolved, That the Synod appreciates the earnest mind of the brethren of the Northern Illinois Classis in their work of education, but at this time is unable to extend to them any financial help, for the reason mainly, that the institution of learning located in our own midst is at this time in need of relief and a very special effort for its upbuilding.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary be and is hereby directed to communicate this action to the Corresponding Secretary of that Classis.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. A. GRING, *Chairman*.

MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College presented their annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday afternoon, which was received, and is as follows:

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF MERCERSBURG COLLEGE.

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

The Board of Regents of Mercersburg College begs leave to present to the Synod the following annual report:—

The Board was reorganized at Woodstock, Va., during the meeting of the last Synod, by the election of Rev. J. S. Kieffer, as Secretary, E. J. Bonbrake, Esq., of Chambersburg, Pa., as Treasurer, and the undersigned, as President. Several meetings of the Board were held during the past Synodical year. The past year was, in various respects, a most serious and trying one to your Board.

In the judgment of the Board it became absolutely necessary to suspend the educational work of the College immediately after the adjournment of the last annual meeting of the Synod, and thereby prevent the further increase of its indebtedness, inasmuch as the institution, as then in operation, was running into debt at the rate of at least three thousand dollars a year.

At a special meeting of the Board held in Chambersburg, Pa., October 25th, 1880, it was deemed proper, in accordance with the advice and action of the last Synod, to prepare and send out a very earnest appeal to the pastors of the Synod to make collections in their respective pastoral charges, for the immediate relief of the institution. Such appeal was regularly issued in the early part of last November, but—"Tell it not in Gath, publish it not in the streets of Askelon"—only two pastors made any response to the appeal. And so the whole amount realized by this project very little more than paid the expenses incurred in issuing the appeal. Under such circumstances the Board was at a loss to know what to do, or what course to pursue. Although specially empowered by the action of the last Synod, to employ and send an agent into the pastoral charges of the Synod to collect funds to help pay the liabilities of the College, it was no thought worth while by your Board to resort to that expedient, after witnessing the humiliating response made to the appeal that had been issued. Nor was any one to be found suitable and willing to go forth as agent on such a mission.

The only course left was to try to do the best we could in the case, and attempt to buffet the approaching storm, which was sure to come. Accord-

ingly such personal effects were sold to the creditors as could be disposed of, amounting to between five and six hundred dollars. Some transfer of notes and accounts, as well as some collections were made, so that perhaps as much as fifteen hundred dollars of the indebtedness has been met in this way and cancelled during the past Synodical year. Between fifty and one hundred dollars also have been expended in making absolutely necessary repairs to the several buildings. The amount of indebtedness thus cancelled and money expended on repairs cannot be accurately given by your Board at present, as our Treasurer is now absent from home, on a western trip, and his books are not accessible. But we feel perfectly safe in saying to the Synod, that, after allowing for the accumulating of interest and meeting the expenditures of repairs made to the property, there has been an actual decrease of indebtedness to the full amount of at least eight hundred dollars, during the past year.

Last spring, the holder of what was then known as the King or Hager Mortgage had said mortgage foreclosed, and the entire property was advertised to be sold at sheriff's sale by the sheriff of this county, on the 22d of last April. Prominent members of the Synod were appealed to by the officers of the Board in reference to contributing funds, in the shape of shares of one hundred dollars, or multiples thereof, and thus meet the mortgage by payment and transfer thereof to those paying the money, and so save the property of the Church, first erected for educational purposes by our Reformed Zion, from being sold under the hammer of the sheriff. No favorable responses were made, we are sorry to say, except in a single instance, by one of our esteemed laymen, who is known for his liberality. The friends of the institution, in our own Church and outside thereof, in Mercersburg and Chambersburg, went to work, as a last resort, raised the money in shares of one hundred dollars, or multiples thereof, paid the then holder of the mortgage his claim, had it regularly transferred to themselves, and so saved the College from the impending calamity of the threatened sheriff's sale, on the very morning of the day appointed for the sale to take place. And thus by transfer the mortgage has passed into possession of certain citizens of Mercersburg and Chambersburg, and is held by them mainly.

Your Board is happy in being able to announce to the Synod that the College has recently been re-opened under the superintendence and management of Rev. G. W. Aughinbaugh, D.D., as a male and female institution of learning, such as it was for some time after its organization in 1865. Dr. Aughinbaugh is assisted in his work by an efficient lady teacher, besides his wife, who has charge of the department of music. The number of pupils is eighteen or twenty, with fair prospects of further accessions to the roll of students. As now conducted, the College is carried forward without any financial expense to the Board of Regents, or to the Church. If the Synod will only manfully rally around the institution, and furnish a largely increased number of students, male and female, this will not only continue to be the case, but the school will soon begin to afford revenue to help pay off, from year to year, the unfortunate indebtedness of Mercersburg College.

In conclusion, the attention of the Synod is called to the fact that it will be necessary to fill by election the places of Revs. J. S. Kieffer, D. M. Whitmore, and Wm. M. Deatruck, members of the Board, whose term of office expires with the present meeting of Synod, and also the vacancy in the Board occasioned by the resignation of Dr. M. A. Berry, last July, which was temporarily filled by the Board in the appointment of Rev. C. Cort.

Respectfully submitted by order of the Board.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *President.*

The consideration of the report was made the order of the day for Saturday morning's session, at 10 o'clock. At the appointed hour, the Synod resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, with

Rev. J. M. Titzel in the chair. The remainder of the session, and also a part of the afternoon session, were devoted in this way to the interests of the College. After rising, the Committee of the Whole, through its Chairman, reported to the Synod for adoption the following resolutions, which were accordingly adopted, to wit:

1. *Resolved*, That, if possible, the property at Mercersburg shall be saved to the Reformed Church, for educational purposes.
2. *Resolved*, That the Board of Regents be recommended to make the best possible terms with the creditors of Mercersburg College, and fund the debt at a rate of interest not exceeding five per cent.
3. *Resolved*, That the Synod guarantees the payment annually of three hundred dollars for the term of five years, to help meet the interest on the funded debt.
4. *Resolved*, That the Synod is gratified to learn, that Mercersburg College has been re-opened under the efficient and encouraging management of the Rev. G. W. Aughinbaugh, D. D., and the Synod heartily commends the institution to the confidence and patronage of our people.

Col. George B. Wiestling tendered to the Synod his resignation as a member of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, which was accepted, and the Committee on Nominations was instructed to make the necessary nominations to fill the vacancy.

At the election for members of the different Boards of Synod, held during the session of Monday evening, Revs. I. G. Brown, W. C. Cremer, and S. S. Miller were elected members of the Board of Education for the term of three years. At the same time, Revs. Wm. M. Deatrick, Wm. Goodrich, and Wm. I. Stewart were chosen as members of the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College for the term of three years, and Elder I. H. Keefer and Rev. J. Hassler for the term of two years.

The following individuals constitute the Board of Education, and the Board of Regents of Mercersburg College, severally, at the present time, to wit:

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. I. G. Brown	3 years	October, 1884.
“ W. C. Cremer	3 “	“ 1884.
“ S. S. Miller	3 “	“ 1884.
“ Wm. M. Deatrick	2 “	“ 1883.
“ J. S. Kieffer	2 “	“ 1883.
“ J. W. Santee	2 “	“ 1883.
“ W. Goodrich	1 year	“ 1882.
“ A. J. Heller	1 “	“ 1882.
Elder J. Heyser	1 “	“ 1882.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick	3 years	October, 1884.
" Wm. Goodrich	3 "	" 1884.
" Wm. I. Stewart	3 "	" 1884.
" A. J. Heller	2 "	" 1883.
Elder I. H. Keefer	2 "	" 1883.
Rev. J. Hassler	2 "	" 1883.
Elder A. R. Schnebly	1 year	" 1882.
" Louis Markell	1 "	" 1882.
E. J. Bonbrake, Esq.	1 "	" 1882.

ARTICLE XIV.

MISSIONS.

The Annual Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board, of the Superintendent, and of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions were laid before the Synod and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Missions. This Committee reported, during the session of Monday afternoon, and their report was ordered to be taken up item by item for adoption, was adopted as a whole, and will be found subjoined in its proper place. These several reports are as follows :

I. REPORT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the Synod of the Potomac :

REV. FATHERS AND BRETHREN: We herewith transmit to your reverend body the annual reports of the Superintendent and Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

It is the duty of the several Synods represented in the Board, at their present annual meetings, to elect a person to fill the office of Superintendent, for the coming four years. Your Board, as it is made its duty to do, nominates candidates for said office, presenting the names of Revs. Dr. Theodore Appel and Henry Mosser.

Respectfully submitted,

J. O. MILLER, *President.*

W. H. H. SNYDER, *Secretary.*

II. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

To the United States, Pittsburgh and Potomac Synods :

RESPECTED BRETHREN:—The Superintendent of Missions hereby respectfully presents this his Fourth Annual Report of the condition and progress of the missions under the care of the Board during the past year.

PENNSYLVANIA.

Grace Reformed Church, Easton.—Under the care of the Board five years. Members, 80. S. S. scholars, 100. Baptisms, 10. Additions, 5. Benevolence, \$30. Local objects, over \$600. Cost of property, \$3,000. Indebtedness, about \$1,200. Reduction of debt during the year, \$300. Attendance, better than in former years. The condition of the mission steadily improving. In a great measure dependent for its increase on members removing from the country to the town. Appropriation fixed by the Classis—not reported to the Board. Pastor, D. Y. Heisler.

Salem's Reformed Church, Catsaugua.—About seven years under the care of the Board. Members, 140. S. S. scholars, 150. Baptisms, 19. Additions, 16. Losses, 5. Benevolence, \$43.53. Local objects, \$1,094.66. Cost of property, \$3,100. Its value much greater. Its present indebtedness is \$1,600. Reduction during the year, \$1,500. There is a decided improvement in the condition of this mission, as compared with that of previous years. Its indebtedness is still in its way, also the financial disrepute into which it had fallen during previous years. It is, however, overcoming both of these difficulties, and its financial status in the community has improved. Appropriation fixed by Classis. Pastor, J. J. Crist.

Christ's Mission, East Allentown.—This mission was served during part of the past year by Rev. J. Fritzinger. After his withdrawal, the Rev. W. J. Kershner became its pastor. The Classis of Lehigh declined extending to it any further assistance, and it is, therefore, no longer under the care of the Board. With the help which it expects to receive from members of the Reformed church in other congregations in the city, it is believed that it will hereafter be able to sustain itself.

St. John's, Reading.—Members, 390. Baptisms, 71. Additions, 65. S. S. scholars, 400. Cost of church property, \$22,000. Reduction of indebtedness during the past year, \$500. The financial condition of the mission is improving; and if it were not for its indebtedness, the mission would be self-supporting. The pastor has been serving the Birdsboro mission during the year, which at present is building a new church for its use. If this congregation can be connected with one or more neighboring congregations, it will constitute a self-supporting charge, and pastor Steinmetz will be relieved of a part of his arduous labors. He can then devote more time and attention to his congregation in Reading. Appropriation last year, \$300. This year, \$200. Pastor, J. W. Steinmetz.

St. John's, West Philadelphia.—For several years past this mission has been suffering from financial difficulties. Its income was not sufficient to meet its expenditures. The actual amount of indebtedness over a year ago was diminished, as said in last year's report, and was not, therefore, in itself, a financial gain. The indebtedness had been accumulating for several years before. The pastor, Rev. J. S. Vandersloot, having been invited to take charge of a mission in another part of the city, concluded to withdraw from his post, so that the way might be opened to place the mission upon a better financial basis. The mission, accordingly, has been vacant for several months, but it has been regularly supplied by the Superintendent and others. The way is now open for the location of another pastor over it; and so soon as that is brought about, the Board has good hopes that, under new auspices, it will take a new departure, and overcome the difficulties which have stood thus far in the way of its progress. Appropriation last year, \$300. Vacant.

Grace Church, Philadelphia.—This mission grew out of a mission Sunday-school, which had been kept up by the members of the Reformed church for a number of years previously, at the corner of 5th and Dauphin streets, in the northern part of the city. Last spring it made an application to the Board to be recognized as a mission, and to be supplied with a missionary pastor. It was signed by over fifty persons. A congregation of some twenty persons was organized by the Classis of Philadelphia, and the Rev. J. S. Vandersloot was commissioned by the Board to take charge of it as missionary. It is believed

that the number of members will be largely increased during the course of the year. The Sunday-school, numbering over one hundred scholars, had been carried forward with energy, during previous years, and it is now in a flourishing condition. A lot of ground has been selected for a new church or chapel, and it is proposed to build on it during the course of the year. The mission is promising. It is located in a part of the city where missionary labor is needed, and where is much material belonging to the Reformed church which, with the divine blessing, may be gathered into a flourishing church. Appropriation, \$500. Pastor, J. S. Vandersloot.

Second Church, Harrisburg.—Members, 109. Baptisms, 16. Additions, 16. S. S. scholars, 273. Benevolence, \$80. For local objects, \$689. No debt. The Missionary Society, composed mainly of S. S. scholars, contributed one-fourth of the amount devoted to benevolence. This congregation has been receiving missionary help since its organization, a little over seventeen years ago. During the period it has been under the charge of the present pastor—eight years—it has been making encouraging additions from year to year, in all, 147; but its losses, by removals or death, have been also large, so that its growth in numbers has been impeded by circumstances which were beyond its control. The Classis of Lancaster is at present making an effort to connect it with a congregation in the country, by which it is thought the charge will be nearly or quite self-sustaining. Appropriation last year, \$250. This year, the same. Pastor, G. W. Snyder.

Zwingli Church, Harrisburg.—This mission has been supplied for two years by the Rev. John G. Fritchey, during which time he has reduced the indebtedness from \$2,000 to \$1,100, and re-established its financial reputation. Confidence has been restored, and the members are united and willing to work together for the future prosperity of the church. Mr. Fritchey, in view of his advancing age, is anxious to withdraw from the mission, and the way seems now to be prepared to secure some one to succeed him. It is thought that before long the Board will be able to obtain a competent person to take charge of it. Members, 66. Baptisms, 6. Additions, 6, all heads of families. S. S. scholars, 40. Benevolence, \$3. Local objects, \$268. Value of property, estimated at \$10,000. Appropriation, \$100. Pastor, Rev. J. G. Fritchey.

Columbia.—Members, 165. Losses, 16 by removal; 10 by death. Additions, 19. Baptisms, 18. S. S. scholars, 185. Benevolence, \$93. For local objects, \$960. Value of church property, \$7,000; of parsonage, \$3,000. The congregation, under difficulties, is making progress. For a number of years past it has had a troublesome debt to contend with, amounting, during the year, to \$1,625. A few weeks ago, an effort was made to pay it off. Over \$1,200 was secured for this purpose, and in a few weeks more it is expected that the balance will be provided for. Appropriation last year, \$125. This year, the same. Pastor, C. S. Gerhart.

Wilkes-Barre.—The present missionary has had charge of this mission now nearly four years. Number of members at Wilkes-Barre, 312. At Nanticoke, 120. In all, 432. Gain, 112, and losses, 37, leaving a net increase of 75. S. S. scholars, 225. Baptisms, 64. Benevolence, \$54. Local objects, \$— . Cost of property, \$13,000. Indebtedness last year, \$3,650. This year, \$1,600. At Nanticoke the congregation is making an effort to erect a church, for which \$800 have thus far been secured. An eligible piece of ground was donated for this purpose by

the Susquehanna Coal Company. The mission at Plymouth, referred to in last year's report as growing out of the mission at Wilkes-Barre, has been doing well under the care of the Rev. S. C. Meckel, and now receives an appropriation from the Classis of East Susquehanna. It has 42 members, and expects to erect a new church for its use by the coming spring. Missionary work in the Wyoming Valley thus far has made an encouraging degree of progress, and promises well for the spread of the church in that section of the country. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, \$225. Pastor, F. K. Levan.

Lock Haven.—Members, 140. Two congregations. Additions, 11. Baptisms, 5. S. S. scholars, 90. Benevolence, \$30. Debt, \$729. Reduction during the year, \$81. Cost of church, \$2,200, but worth much more now. In need of repairs. The church building of the country congregation is of little value, and must soon be replaced by a new one. The attendance upon the means of grace is good, and the mission is growing both internally and externally. When the present pastor took charge of it in 1879, it was much distracted, and its prospects gloomy. Since then it has rallied, and its condition is again promising for the future. Support of the pastor inadequate. Appropriation last year, \$300. This year, the same. Pastor, I. S. Stahr.

East Liberty and Wilkesburg.—The congregation at East Liberty has been making progress during the year. The membership was increased one-third since last January. The indebtedness, \$1,600, was reduced to \$750. Street assessment of nearly \$100 per year is a burden on the congregation, likely to continue for several years to come.—Wilkesburg is also doing well, but it has a heavy debt to carry, and its effect on the congregation is depressing. Members in both congregations, 100. Baptisms, 5. Additions, 23. S. S. scholars, 130. For benevolence, \$29. For local objects, \$920. Value of property, about \$6,000. Appropriation last year, \$525. This year, the same. Pastor, J. W. Knappenberger.

Orbisonia, Huntingdon Co.—Three congregations. Under the Board five years. Members, 115. Baptisms, 18. Additions, 8. S. S. scholars, 90. Value of property, \$1,500. Benevolence, \$65. Local objects, \$730. Indebtedness, \$70. Reduction of debt during the year, \$130. The attendance on worship, good. Some growth during the year. The support inadequate, making it necessary for the pastor to teach during a part of his time. The pastor, Rev. J. M. Schick, after laboring successfully in this charge for five years, recently withdrew. Appropriation, \$112. Vacant.

Sulphur Spring, Bedford Co.—Congregations, 3. Members, 169. Baptisms, 24. Additions, 9. Sunday-schools, 2, union. Benevolence, \$62. Local objects, \$503. The mission was established in 1873. It has built a new church at Mann's Choice worth \$1,800, and a parsonage worth \$1,600. These two buildings were paid for gradually from year to year; the remaining indebtedness was paid off during the year. It has been making progress, internally and externally, and its prospects for the future are good. The pastor, W. A. Gring, was recently called to another charge, and he left with the kind wishes of his people. Appropriation last year, \$200.

Duncannon.—There are three congregations comprising this mission. The congregation at Marysville has improved its church building, and paid, in all, \$300 for local purposes, which amounted to \$10, on an average, for each member. The Missionary, Rev. U. H. Heilman, having

received a call from another charge in the church, there is a probability that he will accept of it and withdraw from the mission. The congregation at Duncannon is making a slow but encouraging progress. No statistics given. Appropriation last year, \$225.

First Church, Allegheny City.—This mission has been vacant during the past year. It was thought best by the Board of Missions of the Pittsburgh Synod that the arrangement made last year for its supply should be discontinued, and our missionary interests in Allegheny City were referred to a committee of Classis. Nothing, as far as we know, has been done to revive the mission during the year, and the prospects are that it will lie dormant for the time being. We need very much a church organization in Allegheny City, and it is believed that the time will still come when, under more favorable circumstances, we again will be able to occupy this field.

Shenandoah City.—No reports have been received from this mission during the year. It has hitherto stood under the supervision of the missionary department of the Ursinus Union. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, the same. Pastor, J. G. Neff.

St. John's Church, Johnstown.—Under the care of the Board two years. Members, 61. Baptisms, 15. Additions, 12. Losses, 2. For benevolence, \$43. For local objects, about \$1,500. The new church was dedicated in November last, and since then all the remaining indebtedness—several hundred dollars—has been cancelled. Its cost was \$3,000. This mission, during the short time it has been aided by the Board, has made a commendable degree of progress. Its beginnings were humble, and by no means encouraging to feeble sight. It has been largely, thus far, the work of faith, hope and charity. It received liberal aid from the citizens of Johnstown in the building of the church. Appropriation last year, \$500; this year, the same. Pastor, W. H. Bates.

St. Luke's, Lancaster.—Members, 51. Baptisms, 21. Additions, 18. S. S. scholars, 215. Whole number enrolled during the year, 260. For benevolence, \$21.90. For local objects, \$531.15. Value of property, \$2,800. No indebtedness on property. The Sunday-school has largely increased during the year, and is composed mostly of the children of the poor. Its weekly contributions—\$60—were nearly sufficient to pay its expenses. Contributions to pastor's salary, about \$50. The balance of the expenses were met by the contributions of friends of the mission and proceeds of concerts and festivals. The Harbaugh Missionary Society was started during the year, and holds regular monthly meetings, which are well attended. This mission is doing a good work among the poor in the suburbs of the city, and has been enjoying manifest tokens of the divine favor since its organization, about three years ago. Appropriation last year, \$300; this year, the same. Pastor, W. F. Lichliter.

Overton, Bradford Co.—The prosperous condition of this mission, as presented in our last annual report, was interrupted by the withdrawal of its pastor, who accepted a call to another charge, with the approbation of Classis. Several efforts have been made to secure a successor, but thus far without success. The opportunities for building up churches in this field are favorable, and it is hoped that a suitable person will be secured before long, who will come and carry forward the good work on the foundation which has been laid. Appropriation last year, \$150. Vacant.

Latrobe.—Two congregations. Members, 123. Additions, at Latrobe, 25. Baptisms, 10. S. S. scholars, 65. Benevolence, \$50. For local

purposes, \$600. Cost of property, \$7,200. Indebtedness, \$1,850. Reduction of indebtedness, \$92.60. The mission seems to be looking up, and, if its progress is slow, it is steady. The present pastor took charge of it during the year. He commenced preaching in Ligonier valley, where he organized a congregation of 25 members, which he has continued to serve. Appropriation last year, \$200; this year, the same. Pastor, S. H. Eisenberg.

Trinity Mission, York Co.—This mission has disappointed the expectations of the Board and its friends. For a year or more it has made little or no progress. It has, in fact, declined, and the Board has withdrawn its commission from the missionary. It will, therefore, devolve on the Classis to devise measures by which its wants shall be provided for.

Sharon, Mercer Co.—No reports. Statistics as reported in the minutes of General Synod. Members, 185; baptisms, 11; additions, 12; S. S. scholars, 69; benevolent objects, \$15; local objects, \$1800. The mission is still vacant, but supplied by Rev. F. P. Hartmetz. Appropriation \$100.

New Castle, Lawrence Co.—Organized as a mission in January, 1880. Members, 44. Baptisms, 9. Unconfirmed members, 27. Additions, 9. Worships in a rented hall. An effort is now in progress to build a house of worship, which is much needed. The amount raised in subscriptions and cash up to this time is a fraction over \$2,000. It is proposed to go forward in the erection of the new church yet this fall. It is to cost about \$2,500, exclusive of the lot. Much of the time of the missionary has been occupied in securing subscriptions for the church in the town, and in congregations at a distance; but its spiritual interests have not materially suffered. It is not likely that it will make considerable progress until it is furnished with necessary church accommodations. Its prospects are encouraging. Appropriation last year, \$450; this year, the same. Pastor, J. M. Souder.

Marietta.—The congregation at Marietta, organized several years ago, was for some time a mission under the care of the Classis of Lancaster, and was assisted by a number of its congregations. But the help thus obtained was not sufficient to support its pastor, and it appealed to the Board for a small appropriation, which was granted. The Classis connected it with the Maytown congregation, and so strengthened the charge. The mission is growing, and with some help in time of need, it has good prospects of becoming self-supporting at no distant day. The missionary, Rev. S. P. Brown, withdrew from the field last winter, and he was succeeded by the Rev. G. B. Resser in the spring. Appropriation, \$100.

Tionesta and Dubois.—Both of these points have been recognized as missions, and appropriations made for their support, but thus far they have been without missionary pastors.

VIRGINIA.

Winchester.—Although this mission was without a pastor for a time, it did not suffer any serious loss. Its members held together, and waited in faith and prayer for some one who should break unto them the bread of life. By the appointment of the Board, the Rev. A. R. Kremer took charge of it last spring. His labors thus far have had the effect to encourage the brethren and to inspire hope that his labors among them will be blessed. A reduction of \$50 has been made in the church debt. \$500 still remains to be paid. It will be gradually reduced by the efforts of the Mite Society, which maintains itself in the

congregation with commendable zeal. No statistics have been furnished to us. Appropriation last year, \$250. This year, the same. Pastor, A. R. Kremer.

Mint Spring, Trinity Mission, Augusta Co.—The new church at Mint Spring was finished last fall and a day appointed for its dedication, but when the time came for this solemn act it was decided that it should be postponed until the debt incurred should be in some way provided for. The new church, therefore, has not yet been dedicated, as there is still a debt of \$128 resting on it. A Sunday school has been gathered together, and services have been held in the church every two weeks, which are well attended. As the Middlebrook charge has been strengthened by a new church and a new congregation in the town of Middlebrook, it is now proposed to reconstruct it and unite one of its congregations with Trinity Mission, so as to strengthen it and put it in the way of becoming self-sustaining. The Board has agreed to this arrangement, and, with the help of the Virginia Classis, proposes to make a small appropriation to each of the new charges, so soon as the new arrangement can be carried out. In a few years it is believed that there will be two respectable charges, where five years ago we had only one, and that without standing or influence. Appropriation last year, \$150. Pastor, A. J. Whitmore.

DELAWARE.

St. John's, Wyoming, Kent County.—In the early part of the year this charge became vacant by the resignation of the pastor, Rev. E. H. Dieffenbacher. A successor, however, was secured soon afterwards, so that it was not long vacant. Members, 95; Baptisms, 6; Additions, 5; Sunday-school scholars, 75; cost of property, \$2,000. No indebtedness. Benevolence, \$23.30. Local objects, \$394.23. The failure in some of the crops has been a loss to the mission, but being rooted and grounded in the truth, it is making progress, and its prospects are encouraging. Organized as a mission in 1870. Appropriation last year, \$250. This year, \$150. Pastor, N. J. Miller.

MARYLAND.

Cumberland.—This mission has been under the care of the Board since 1867. It had been a mission many years previously. The present pastor has had charge of it now for seven years. Its growth has been gradual and its prospects are good. Members, 156; unconfirmed members, 112; Baptisms, 15; Additions, 20; Sunday-school scholars, 110; value of property, \$5,500, of cemetery, \$1,000. Indebtedness on both \$2,000. Amount of indebtedness paid off since 1867, \$4,300; Benevolence, \$50; Local objects, \$750. Attendance good. Appropriation last year, \$200. This year, the same. Pastor, F. R. Schwedes.

Ridgely, Caroline Co.—This mission at present consists of three congregations, the first at Ridgely, the second in Queen Ann Co., and the third near Easton, in Talbot Co. Members, 73; Sunday-school scholars, 35; Baptisms, 14; Additions, 9. The new church at Ridgely is under roof but not yet finished, for the want of funds. The new church in Talbot county was dedicated a short time ago. It is a union church and cost between \$400 and \$500. Provision was made at the dedication to pay off all remaining indebtedness by the different denominations represented in it, four in number. The congregation in Kent county, which is small, has not as yet any church. It worships in private houses, and, in the summer time, in a grove. It has met with losses by

deaths and removals, which have prevented it from securing for itself a building of its own. The missionary has not been adequately supported, as the mission at Ridgely did not raise the amount of salary which was expected. The loss, however, was partially made up by missionary boxes and private contributions from friends of missions in Pennsylvania. He will need similar help during the coming winter. Appropriation last year, \$325; this year, the same. Pastor, Joseph Hannabery.

East Baltimore.—The attention of the Board has been directed by the Classis of Maryland to the eastern portion of the city of Baltimore as a suitable place for the establishment of a new mission. Arrangements are at present being made to put up a chapel for the use of a mission Sunday-school and for preaching. One of the resident ministers of our church has consented to take charge of this interest for the present without any compensation.

NORTH CAROLINA.

Concord, Cabarrus Co.—At the recommendation of the Missionary Committee of the Classis of North Carolina, the Rev J. D. Gurley was commissioned to labor as missionary at Concord, about one year ago. We had some valuable members in the town, who came forward and were organized into a congregation. Services have been held regularly in a hall fitted up for the purpose every Sunday, and a fair beginning has been made. Mr. Gurley taught school for a while in order to minister to his support, but other schools having sprung up in the town this resort has failed him for the present. An effort was made at the Classis to connect some country congregations with the mission, but it was deemed premature at the time. This, however, may yet be accomplished. Mr. Gurley has accepted of invitations to preach in nearly all the charges of the Classis, where his services were well received and highly appreciated. In this way, as also by visiting missionary points in the bounds of the Classis, it is believed that his usefulness will be much increased from year to year. Appropriation, \$250. Pastor, J. D. Gurley.

Lincolnton.—A good while ago, there was a flourishing Reformed congregation at Lincolnton, but owing to different causes it was suffered to decline, and nearly all of its members connected themselves with other denominations. For a number of years no Reformed minister preached in the place. A few members—only a few—remained true to the church of their fathers, and it was thought best to supply these with preaching, and to make an effort to revive the congregation, if possible. The Rev. J. A. Foil, who had been preaching occasionally in the town, was commissioned during the year by the Board to take charge of this interest, with a small appropriation. He has been preaching at this point once in four weeks, and has had good audiences. It, however, needs more attention than Mr. Foil can give it in connection with his other engagements. It may possibly be connected with other points within the bounds of Classis hereafter, where preaching is called for, and a new missionary field be formed, in which good results might be expected. A small class of catechumens has been formed at Lincolnton. Appropriation, \$50. Pastor, J. A. Foil.

Moffitt's Grove.—This congregation came under the care of the Board during the past year. The members were poor, and the Rev. J. W. Cecil had served it for several years with little or no compensation. It has no church of its own, but has been worshipping in a school house,

conveniently adapted to its purposes. Under these circumstances it was constituted a mission, and the Board made a small appropriation for the support of its pastor. Mr. Cecil has recently withdrawn from the field, and it will devolve on the Classis to provide for its spiritual wants, either by connecting it with some other charge or by temporary supplies through its missionary committee. Members, 41; Baptisms, 2; Additions 1; Appropriation, \$50. Vacant.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

Washington.—During the past year the attention of this mission has been mainly occupied in securing for itself a suitable house of worship. The members were first called on for their subscriptions, and they all gave liberally for their circumstances. The pastor, the Rev. C. F. Sontag, then spent several months in visiting the churches, and succeeded in raising the amount of subscriptions to a little over \$2,000, when steps were taken by the committee of Maryland Classis to go forward with the erection of a new church. The contract was awarded to good and responsible persons. It is in good taste, in the style of Queen Ann, and the cost will be \$4,100. The building is now in the process of erection. It is expected to be paid for by the subscriptions already received and some that are still to be secured, which will be supplemented by the proceeds of the assessments made on the Classes, after all the payments on the ground are made. There are still two payments to be made on the ground—one this fall and the other next spring—of \$607 each. After the building is finished, and the congregation has the conveniences of a church of its own, the mission will be placed on a permanent foundation, and with the divine blessing will succeed. The labors of the pastor have been interrupted during the year, partly by sickness and partly by necessary absence from home. Fifteen persons have been added to the church, five baptized and two buried. The Sunday-school is yet small. Appropriation, \$600; this year, the same. Pastor, C. F. Sontag.

NEW YORK.

New York.—Our Board has continued to assist the Board of the Eastern German Synod, in the support of this mission. The members composing it had felt it to be their duty to withdraw from an independent congregation, in which they had been accustomed to worship, and organize themselves into a congregation, under Pastor Fox, as missionary. During the past year a reconciliation was effected between the two divisions, and a new organization accomplished, distinctively Reformed, in connection with the German Synod, under the pastorship of Mr. Fox. The re-union was cordial, and the event was celebrated by a special service in the church last spring. The mission has a church of its own on 9th Avenue near 50th Street, well located to exert a good influence on a large class of foreign Germans in the city. Appropriation, \$300. Pastor, F. Fox.

KANSAS.

St. Paul's Reformed Church, Emporia.—Under the care of the Board two years—members, 25; unconfirmed members, 25; baptisms, 6; additions, 6; losses, 11; cost of property, \$3000; Indebtedness, \$600; for benevolence, \$5; for local objects, in addition to what was paid for the erection of the church, \$175. The new church was dedicated last November, amidst general rejoicing in the Mission, and among its friends on the outside. The event helped to inspire confidence and to place

the Mission on a more permanent basis. Since June last, the pastor has been supplying a mission at Holton, in Jackson County, which had lost its pastor, and was suffering seriously. Under his care it has revived somewhat, and a catechetical class has been formed. He also preached at Whiting, twelve miles distant from Holton, and has been preparing the way for organizations at Valley Falls and Harensville, with the view of connecting these points with Holton, and so form a pastoral charge. He further visited Iola, in Kansas, and Raymore in Missouri, near the State line, baptized the children, and sought to prepare the way for the labors of a missionary in the future. His attention was directed to other points, but his time would not allow him to visit them. The missionary labors under the disadvantage of not owning a conveyance, and is without the means of hiring one when needed to enable him to visit various points in the neighborhood. After these openings for the establishment of new missions were reported the Board deemed it necessary to send another missionary to Kansas, and accordingly, commissioned the Rev. L. M. Hensell, of Virginia, at his own request, to proceed to Kansas, and to co-operate with Mr. Shoemaker in cultivating the field, which seemed to be whitening for the harvest. Mr. Hensell, when last heard from, was at Iola, examining the ground with the view of locating himself and commencing his missionary work. Mr. Shoemaker found that his support was inadequate, and it was to some extent supplemented by missionary boxes and gifts of money last winter from the friends of missions in the East. Similar help will be needed to sustain both of our missionaries in Kansas, and the one in Nebraska, during the coming winter. Unless something of this kind is done, we fear that they will be driven from the field. As the Board has commenced missionary operations in these two States, it will be necessary for the Church to sustain the missionaries in their self-denying work, or else all that we have been doing thus far will come to nought. Appropriation to Mr. Shoemaker, \$300. For travelling expenses, \$100. Appropriation to Mr. Hensell, \$300.

NEBRASKA.

Aurora.—Last spring the Rev. Edmond Erb was commissioned as missionary to Nebraska at his own request. He was to some extent acquainted with the field, and felt himself strongly moved to give up his charge in Ohio, in order that he might supply the membership of the church in Nebraska, scattered about as sheep without a shepherd, with the means of grace, and gather them together into congregations. The Board were pleased to accept of his offer to labor in the waste places of our Zion in the Far West. He has now been several months in the field, and most of his time has been occupied in making explorations. He reports that he finds members of the Reformed Church in many places, some of whom have left the church of their fathers, whilst many were still waiting for a minister of their own faith to preach to them the gospel. He has located himself at Aurora, and made it the centre of his missionary operations. He preaches at present in the court-house in the town, and at several school-houses in the country, where he expects soon to organize congregations. His work commends itself to the sympathy and prayers of the church. Appropriation \$300. Pastor, Edmond Erb.

CALIFORNIA.

Salem's Church, Napa.—The spiritual interests of this mission suffered much from the want of a pastor during the previous year. When

the present missionary took charge of it, about one year ago, very few members seemed to be left—apparently only two. He has, however, succeeded in gathering together the scattered sheep, and the condition of the mission has improved under his care. Members, 67. Baptisms, 8. Gathered in, 65. Benevolence, \$13. Local objects, \$330. Cost of property, \$4,000. Indebtedness, \$500. Reduction of indebtedness during the year, \$50. Under the care of the Board eight years. Indifference to the claims of missions, on the part of many of the foreign Germans, presents many difficulties in the way of the mission, but faithful labor among them is sure to bear good fruit. The field is large, and more laborers are needed to assist in cultivating it as it should be. Appropriation, \$300. Pastor, E. DeGeller.

Alameda.—The Rev. Charles Hartman, of Indiana, having expressed a desire to labor among the foreign Germans in California, was commissioned as missionary to Alameda last spring. He took charge of the mission that had been served for a time by one who turned out to be unworthy of his office. He found many of his countrymen who needed the gospel, but manifested little or no interest in having it preached to them. They had, in some degree, lost confidence in ministers, as well as in Christianity itself. This made the beginning of his work somewhat inauspicious, but he has not become discouraged. He preaches at present in a rented hall, and has succeeded in gathering the children together into a Sunday-school, which is growing, and promises well for the future. The beginning seems to be feeble, and the work arduous; but we have the assurance that brother Hartman's labors for the souls of men will not be in vain in the end. He is well qualified for the work which he has undertaken, and is much needed to assist the brethren already in the field in planting the pure Christian faith in the place of Satan's synagogue. Appropriation, \$400. Pastor, C. Hartman.

OREGON.

Portland.—Membership, 172; 110 at Portland, 13 at Sandy, organized into a congregation during the year. 50 at German Creek and the Dalles, also lately organized. Two Sunday-schools, with ninety scholars. Something over \$1,000 were raised for congregational purposes, such as salary, sexton, fuel, and the debt of \$365 mentioned in last year's report. \$70 were raised in the congregation for the completion of a new church in Rev. Lange's charge. The missionary has spent much time in exploring the country and in organizing new churches, and it has become necessary to send other laborers into the field to assist him in his work. Accordingly two new missionaries were commissioned by the Board at its late meeting, to labor in Oregon, in fields to be assigned to them by the Classis of Portland. They came from the Pilger-Mission of St. Chrischona, at Basel, Switzerland, and are highly recommended for the work by Inspector Rappard. Their names are A. Kreuter and F. Ewald. Pastor Gantenbein says that, in addition to the points which he has been trying to hold until relief should come, there are yet a dozen prominent cities and German settlements of great promise to our church on the north Pacific coast, as yet untouched by us, which we should take possession of soon, before it is too late. Appropriation, last year, \$250. Pastor, John Gantenbein.

Salem.—The annual report of this mission has failed to reach us, and so we cannot give statistics. The missionary serves two small congregations of Germans, one at Salem, the capital of the State, which is still

without a church, and the other at Waldo Hills, which completed its church during the year for something over \$500. He preaches at other points, in school-houses and private houses. Latterly he has been preaching regularly at Mehannah, a summer resort, which in the course of time might be made the centre of a new missionary field. He continues to explore the country, to visit from house to house, and to encourage his fellow-countrymen to wait in faith until Providence sends them a shepherd to gather them into the folds of their own church. Appropriation, last year, \$250; this year, \$200. Pastor, Jacob Muellhaupt.

Canby, Clackamas Co.—Under the Board 2½ years. Congregations, 3. Members, 70. Additions, 47. Gain, 43. Baptisms, 5. S. S. scholars, 39. Local objects, \$400. During the past year the pastor, Rev. Julius Lange, organized two new congregations, one at Oregon City, and the other at New Era, seven miles distant. The first, the St. Peter's Church, owns three acres of land, on which there is a parsonage, which serves at present as a house of worship. The second, the St. John's Church, has taken measures to put up a new church for its use. An eligible piece of ground has been donated for the purpose, and subscriptions in money, labor and material secured. As the people are mostly beginners, and still poor, the Board, in accordance with the request of the Portland Classis, has contributed \$50 to encourage and assist in this movement. The small church erected by the congregation at Meridian, referred to in last year's report, has been finished, and is now paid for. It is worth \$650 at present, and in a short time it will be worth considerably more. Brother Lange, owing to fewness of laborers in the field, has preached at various other points within the bounds of the Classis. His health, which had somewhat suffered in consequence of his arduous labors, has, we are glad to report, been restored to him. Appropriation, last year, \$200; this year the same. Pastor, Julius Lange.

WASHINGTON TERRITORY.

Walla Walla.—This mission was supplied for some time by Rev. George Maecktersheimer. During the past year, by the advice of his Classis, he was induced to transfer his labors to another place in the Territory. The field is still vacant, and, as it is an important one, efforts will be made to supply it with a suitable missionary, it is hoped, at an early day. Appropriation last year, \$200. Vacant.

Seattle, Puget Sound.—By the advice of the Portland Classis, Mr. Maecktersheimer was commissioned to labor as missionary at this point. He was well received by his fellow-countrymen, and his prospects of success in this field are encouraging. Appropriation, \$200. Pastor, George Maecktersheimer.

Ursinus Union.—The Rev. F. W. Kremer, D. D., Treasurer of the Church and Committee of the Ursinus Union, reports that since the last annual meeting of Synod he has received for missionary purposes, \$760.49. Three hundred dollars of this amount has passed through the hands of our Treasurer for the support of a mission under the care of the Board. The balance has been paid into the Treasuries of other missionary boards of the church.

SUMMARY.

Number of missions.....	45
Members in the missions.....	4,159
Baptisms during the year.....	470

Additions during the year.....	588
Sunday-school scholars.....	3,406
Amount collected for benevolence.....	\$932
" " local objects.....	\$18,929
Cost of property.....	\$164,000
Indebtedness	\$27,450

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

From the treasurer's report it will appear that the income of the Board during the year, from all sources, was \$12,220.85. To this, however, must be added over \$1,000, received by the treasurer for the Washington Chapel, not included in the income as given above. The amount then would be \$13,294. Last year the income was \$15,403, which was larger than usual, because many of the contributions came in the form of thank-offerings for the return of peace and reconciliation in the church—supposed to be \$5,000. The difference between the receipts of the two years is less than was anticipated, and the income during the past year was larger than during any previous ordinary year. There was due our missionaries in salary, on the first of October, \$4,000, with a balance in the treasury of \$1,240.

The following statement of the income of the Board for missions in former years—since 1860—may be interesting and instructive at the present time:

Income from 1860 to 1865—five years.....	\$28,538
" " 1865 to 1869, from the whole church, all the Synods.....	42,487
" " 1869 to 1873, from all the Synods.....	19,616
" " 1873 to 1877, from three Synods, on the tri-Synodic plan.....	36,315
" " 1877 to 1881, on the tri-Synodic plan cont'd	46,019

For the coming year the Board will need \$15,000 at least—more if possible—in order to meet current expenses; for which we suggest that the three Synods interested be requested to adopt measures to raise the following amounts:

The Synod of the United States.....	\$8,500
The Synod of the Potomac	3,750
The Synod of Pittsburgh.....	2,750

RECOMMENDATIONS.

That the Synods request each congregation within their bounds, to take up one collection during the year, for the purpose of creating a Church Building Fund, to assist missions to erect churches, either in the way of a loan or a donation.

That the Synods request all the ministers and pastoral charges to be more careful hereafter, that the assessments made for missions be more fully met.

That missionary festivals be held in each Classis, and in the different congregations; that missionary societies be organized and encouraged in each congregation or Sunday School; that missionary intelligence be diffused in all our churches, and our people be urged to give more liberally, so that our missionaries may be more promptly paid and encouraged in their work.

A RETROSPECT.

As the period for which the Superintendent of Missions was appointed by the three Synods, conjointly, comes to a close during the present year, it is proper at this time to make a brief review of our missionary work during the period of time he has been in office. It is a matter of encouragement to the Church that the cause of missions has been prospered, and that it has not been without manifest tokens of the divine favor.

Most of the missions reported four years ago, are still under the care of the Board. Only a few of them have become self-sustaining. Others, to a greater or less extent, are approaching to the point when they will be able to provide for themselves. The most marked feature of our missionary work during that period of time is found in its enlargement or expansion. Following, what were deemed clear indications of Divine Providence, the Board established a number of new and interesting missions. The mission at Johnstown, from an humble and inauspicious beginning, has grown up and is making cheering progress, having secured for itself a church of its own, not encumbered with any remaining debt. Other missions have been established within the bounds of the Pittsburgh Synod—at Latrobe, New Castle, and more recently at other points, which, however, have not as yet, been supplied with missionary pastors. St. Luke's mission, at Lancaster, Pa., which grew out of a Mission Sunday-School, was commenced in 1879, and has been successful in erecting for itself a new Church, with no large amount of indebtedness resting on it. The present missionary at Emporia, Kansas, was commissioned in the year 1879. He organized the flock, which had been gathered together by his predecessor, into a congregation, and has been successful in putting up a neat church for its use, whilst he has explored different parts of the State, and visited various places where members of the Reformed Church have settled. Quite recently the Board has sent out another missionary to co-operate with him in building up the waste places of our Zion in that State. Last spring a missionary was commissioned to the neighboring State of Nebraska, where he finds many members of our church, among whom he proposes to build up missionary churches. The Mission in San Francisco became self-supporting some three years ago, and it soon became necessary for the Board to commission another laborer to assist in carrying forward the work of missions among the Foreign Germans in San Francisco and suburbs. Four years ago we had only two missionaries in Oregon and Washington territory; now we have four, and we will have six, as soon as two, from the Missionary Institute of St. Chrischona, Basel, now in this county, shall have reached their field of labor. The first mission in Oregon was started about six years ago at Portland. It is now nearly or quite self-supporting—a source of encouragement and hope to other missions growing up around it. The increase of laborers on the Pacific Coast led to the formation of two Classes instead of one. The Mission of Middlebrook, Va., has become self-supporting, and a new one established in the neighborhood. In North Carolina, three new missions have commenced within the past year, which it is hoped will assist in reviving and strengthening our Church in the South.

But whilst we have endeavored to provide for the spiritual wants of our people in the West and the South, and in smaller towns and villages in the East, we have not overlooked the destitution of our larger cities. Over one year ago we undertook to assist the eastern German Board in

sustaining a German mission in the city of New York; have lately commenced a promising English mission in Philadelphia, and are just about adopting measures to establish one in the city of Baltimore. It is only the want of means that has prevented us from having an English mission in the city of Boston, and extending our work among the foreign Germans in New England. The mission in Washington, D. C., is now in its fourth year, and has encouraging prospects of permanence and success. All this shows, that, limited as our resources are, we can, with prudence and care, extend our work also into our large cities, and build up churches for our people, who are continually flowing into them from the country.

As system and order are necessary in carrying forward the work of missions—just as much as in any other enterprise—it has been a primary object with the Board to encourage and foster missionary societies in our congregations and Sunday-schools. During the last four years many of these have sprung up in all directions, and have proved themselves to be a blessing to the churches, as well as perennial sources of increase to our missionary treasury. To supply these societies with missionary intelligence, as well as to awaken still more the missionary spirit among our people, a monthly missionary paper has been published under the direction of the Board, which, if properly encouraged, cannot fail, as we believe, to become one of the most potent agents in advancing our missionary interests.

From this brief review, as well as from what has appeared in our reports from year to year, it will appear that the cause of missions is advancing—making some progress among us. As a consequence, our people are becoming more interested in this department of benevolence, and their liberality is improving. During the last four years the entire amount raised for missions, as reported regularly through our treasurer was in round numbers \$46,000. The amount actually contributed, but not so reported, was considerable. It would be difficult to give the precise amount. During the previous four years the amount reported was \$36,000, showing an increase of \$10,000 during the second term of what has come to be known as the Tri-Synodic Plan.

But whilst these facts go to show that the Reformed Church in the East has made a good beginning in its missionary enterprises, it should, however, be remembered that it is only a beginning. Our increasing liberality has fallen far short of the providential openings, which God is making to us, and most manifestly inviting us to enter and cultivate. As a denomination we have the means—and we hope the heart also—of doing much more for our Divine Lord, who has done so much for us. We have, in fact, great reason to humble ourselves in the dust and to hide our faces in shame when we call to mind what we might do, and listen to the urgent calls that are made upon us for help in the many waste places of our country. It is a cause in which we can no longer stand still or be indifferent, without being guilty of the commission of a great sin, and of the perpetration of a great wrong upon those who call to us for help in their time of need. It is becoming more and more a matter that should cause ministers and members to fear and tremble, lest God should withdraw altogether the light of His countenance. Upon us, therefore, ministers of the gospel, the shepherds of the flocks, committed to our care, more especially, lies a solemn responsibility to cry aloud and spare not, until our Reformed Zion awakes from her slumbers, and puts on her strength and her beautiful garments.

Respectfully submitted,

THEODORE APPEL,

Superintendent of Missions.

Lancaster, Pa., Oct. 4, 1881.

III. REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE TRI-SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS.

The following report was received from the Treasurer of the Board of Missions:—

To the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church in the United States.

I regret to announce to the Board, and through it to the Synods and the Church at large, that the finances are not in as promising a condition as at the date of my last annual report.

The contributions have fallen off very seriously during the year, being more than twenty-four hundred dollars less than during the previous year.

Some of the Classes have, it is gratifying to state, increased their contributions very handsomely, but others, alas, have come far behind.

The present indebtedness of the Board to the missionaries is nearly \$4,000, towards paying which there is in the treasury a balance of \$1,230.97, leaving an actual indebtedness of more than \$2,700.

Unless the Church manifests more liberality during the present year, the number of missions must be reduced and the salaries of the missionaries cut down. Such a step is painful to contemplate, and it is earnestly hoped may be averted by God's people increasing their offerings so that His reign may be extended and His kingdom come.

The following statement exhibits the sources and amounts contributed for Missions, viz :

Synod of the United States.

Classis of Philadelphia	\$ 116 00	
" Tohickon	639 28	
" Goshenhoppen	1536 75	
" East Pennsylvania	809 45	
" Lebanon	1529 61	
" Lancaster	761 45	
" East Susquehanna	353 00	
" West Pennsylvania	662 20	
" Lehigh	473 74	
Total from the Synod of the United States		\$ 6,931 48

Synod of the Potomac.

Classis of Zion	\$ 387 15	
" Maryland	910 12	
" Mercersburg	1006 25	
" Virginia	170 95	
" San Francisco	15 00	
" North Carolina	72 41	
Total from the Synod of the Potomac		\$ 2,561 88

Synod of Pittsburg.

From the Treasurer of Synod	\$ 2,062 49	
		11,555 85

Miscellaneous Sources.

From Locke legacy (principal)	\$ 500 00	
" " (interest)	135 00	
" Adelaide Dechant legacy	24 00	
" Gerhart legacy	6 00	
Balance in Treasury Oct. 11, 1880	963 86	\$ 1,628 86
Total from all sources		13,184 71

Disbursements.

Paid orders of the Board during year	\$11,568 74	
Paid Treasurer Iowa Classis	35 00	
Paid Treasurer Iowa Classis per Treasurer Pittsburgh Synod	350 00	
Balance in the Treasury Oct. 3, 1881	1,230 97	13,184 71

Respectfully submitted,

WM. H. SEIBERT, *Treasurer.**Harrisburg, Pa., Oct. 3, 1881.*

We, the undersigned, a committee appointed by the Board of Missions of the Reformed Church for that purpose, beg leave to report that we have examined the Treasurer's Report with the accompanying vouchers, and find it to be correct, with a balance of \$1,230.97 in the Treasury.

Witness our hands this 3d day of October, 1881.

W. H. H. SNYDER, }
D. W. GROSS, } *Committee.*

IV. REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE ON MISSIONS.

Your Committee on Missions beg leave to offer the following as their report:

There have been referred to us for consideration the Reports of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, of the Superintendent of Missions, of the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board of Missions, and an overture from Iowa Classis, asking for a special appropriation for missions within its bounds.

In the reports from the Tri-Synodic Board and its officers we find the following matters requiring action on the part of this Synod, namely: A request that \$3750.00 be furnished by this Synod for Missions, during the ensuing year: and also certain recommendations respecting collections for a Building Fund, Missionary Festivals, and Missionary Societies. With regard to these things we would recommend the following action:

Resolved, That this Synod assume the \$3750.00, suggested by the Board, as our portion of the \$15,000.00 needed to carry forward the work now in hand, and that it be apportioned as follows: Zion's Classis \$1150.00, Maryland Classis \$1150.00, Mercersburg Classis \$1100.00, Virginia Classis \$300.00, North Carolina Classis \$150.00, San Francisco Classis \$25.00, and Portland-Oregon Classis \$25.00—making \$3900.00.

Resolved, That the Classes of this Synod be urgently enjoined to make every proper effort to meet their respective apportionments.

Resolved, That the Classes of this Synod be instructed to enjoin upon their pastors to take up, during the ensuing year, at such time as may be most suitable, in each congregation a collection for a Church-Building Fund.

Resolved, That the Classes of this Synod be also recommended to hold Missionary Festivals within their respective bounds, during each year, and to take such further action as will lead to the organization of Missionary Societies in all their congregations.

As regards the overture of Iowa Classis, we would suggest the following action:

Resolved, That Iowa Classis be requested to place its missions so far, at least, under the Tri-Synodic Board, as to report annually their condition and the amounts contributed for their support, to said Board.

Resolved, That the sum of \$450.00 be raised by this Synod for missions within the bounds of Iowa Classis, and that this amount be apportioned as follows: Zion's Classis \$150.00, Maryland Classis \$150.00, Mercersburg Classis \$130.00, Virginia Classis \$10.00, and North Carolina Classis \$10.00—said amounts to be paid over by the Classes to the Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic

Board, to be forwarded by him to the Iowa Classis, when said Classis has complied with the request in the foregoing resolution.

Resolved, That the Corresponding Secretary of this body be instructed to inform Iowa Classis of this action.

Your Committee would further report, that by instructions of Synod arrangements were made for a Missionary meeting, during the sessions of this Synod. This meeting was held on the evening of the second day of its sessions. Rev. Dr. Miller presided over the meeting, and suitable addresses were delivered by Revs. J. M. Titzel, Dr. T. Appel, and W. Rupp. A collection was also taken up for missionary purposes in the field of Rev. Julius Lange in Oregon, which amounted to \$50.00, including a supplemental collection on Sunday evening.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. TITZEL, *Chairman*.

The Treasurer of the Tri-Synodic Board acknowledges the reception, during the year, of the following sums for the Washington Mission Chapel, to wit: Lebanon Classis \$148.10, Lancaster Classis \$134.67, West Susquehanna Classis \$99.00, Lehigh Classis \$66.00, Goshenhoppen Classis \$50.00 = \$497.77; Mercersburg Classis \$551.31, Zion's Classis \$105.40, North Carolina Classis \$25.00, Virginia Classis \$18.00 = \$699.71; miscellaneous sources \$32.40. Total \$1229.86.

At the election for members of the different Boards, held during the session of Monday evening, Rev. Dr. Theodore Appel was elected as Synod's choice for Missionary Superintendent for the period of four years, and Revs. J. M. Titzel and Dr. Weisz were elected as members of the Synodic Board of Missions for a like term of years.

MEMBERS OF THE SYNODIC BOARD OF MISSIONS AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. J. M. Titzel	4 years	October, 1885
" I. S. Weisz	4 "	" 1885
" E. R. Eschbach	3 "	" 1884
" E. N. Kremer	3 "	" 1884
" G. W. Welker	2 "	" 1883
" J. O. Miller	1 "	" 1882
Elder S. Dutrow	1 "	" 1882

ARTICLE XV.

FINANCE.

I. TREASURER'S REPORT.

The Annual Report of the Treasurer of Synod was presented and read, and then referred to the Standing Committee on Finance, for the purpose of being audited. The Report is as follows:

LEWIS H. STEINER, *Treasurer, in account with the Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.*

DR.

Oct. 21, 1880.	To balance in the Treasury	\$281 13
" " "	To amount of cash and subscriptions collected at Synod for Missions	58 88
Jan. 12, 1881.	To cash from C. A. Schultz, Treasurer Zion's Classis, on assessment of said Classis for 1879-80	100 00
Feb. 25, 1881.	To cash from ditto, being balance on said assessment with interest	64 72
May 6, 1881.	To cash from Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Treasurer Mercersburg Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	160 00
" 12, 1881.	To cash from Rev. S. S. Miller, Treasurer Maryland Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	160 00
July 22, 1881.	To cash from Rev. T. Long, Treasurer North Carolina Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	25 00
Aug. 1, 1881.	To cash from C. A. Shultz, Treas. Zion's Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	160 00
" 9, 1881.	To cash from Rev. J. A. Hoffheins, Treasurer Virginia Classis, being assessment on said Classis for 1880-81	40 00
		<hr/>
		\$1049 73

CONTRA CR.

Oct. 21, 1880.	By cash to Rev. A. J. Whitmore for Mint Springs Mission, being Synodical collection	58 88
Dec. 16, 1880.	By cash to Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Treas. Board of Education,—one year's interest on Stoudenour legacy	12 00
Jan 12, 1881.	By cash to Lewis Markell on loan made to Synod for Publication Board	100 00
" 24, 1881.	By cash to Ref. Ch. Publication Board for printing 2000 copies of Minutes of Synod for 1880	135 00
April 2, 1881.	By cash to Rev. G. E. Addams, Pastor of Churchtown Church, one year's interest on Brechbill legacy	12 00
May 2, 1881.	By cash to W. D. Gross, Treas. General Synod,—assessment for Contingent Fund	260 00
" 6, 1881.	By cash to Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk's salary	100 00
" " 1881.	By cash to Rev. W. M. Deatrick, Stated Clerk's expenses	13 00
" 12, 1881.	By cash to Louis Markell, on loan	133 85
Aug. 1, 1881.	By Cash to Louis Markell in full payment of balance on loan and interest	74 16
Oct. 19, 1881.	By balance in Treasury	150 84
		<hr/>
		\$1049 73

Liabilities of Synod.

Stoudenour Bequest to Board of Education, with interest from December 15, 1880	200 00
Brechbill Bequest to Churchtown Pastor, with interest from April 2, 1881	200 00
	<hr/>
	\$400 00

Respectfully submitted,

LEWIS H. STEINER, *Treasurer.*

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON FINANCE.

The Standing Committee on Finance submitted their report, during the session of Tuesday forenoon, which was received and adopted, and is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee on Finance report, that they examined the Treasurer's Report and found it correct, with a balance of \$150.84 in the Treasury.

To meet the contingent expenses of the Synod, and liabilities assumed by the Synod, at this meeting, your Committee suggest the following assessment for contingent expenses, assessment of the General Synod, and pledge to Mercersburg College: Zion's Classis, Maryland Classis, and Mercersburg Classis, each, \$275.00; Virginia Classis, \$50.00; and North Carolina Classis, \$30.00. Making \$905.00.

To meet the deficiency in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster and the note of Mrs. N. Fisher, deceased, your Committee recommend the following assessments: Zion's Classis, Maryland Classis, and Mercersburg Classis, each, \$325.00; Virginia Classis, \$75.00; and North Carolina Classis, \$50. Making \$1100.

Respectfully submitted,

A. J. HELLER, *Chairman.*

In the absence of any report from the Board of Trustees of Synod, Rev. M. H. Sangree, agent of said Board to collect the balance due on loan effected by the Board by order of the Synod several years ago, submitted the following report to the Synod, which was received and adopted, to wit:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

As agent of the Board of Trustees, appointed by your body at the Synod of Winchester, A. D. 1875, for the securing of the Two Thousand Dollar Loan for the relief of the Reformed Church Publication Board, the undersigned would report, that he has been unable to make any collections within the past year, but hopes to be able to pay over to the Synod one hundred dollars within the current year.

Respectfully submitted,

M. H. SANGREE, *Agent.*

At the election for members of the several Boards of Synod, Elder J. Taylor Motter was elected a member of the Board of Trustees of Synod for the term of five years.

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder J. Taylor Motter . . .	5 years . . .	January 1, 1887
Rev. J. T. Rossitter . . .	4 " . . .	January 1, 1886
Elder Louis Markel . . .	3 " . . .	January 1, 1885
" H. Wirt Shriver . . .	2 " . . .	January 1, 1884
Rev. W. R. H. Deatrich . . .	1 " . . .	January 1, 1883

ARTICLE XVI.

APPEALS AND REFERENCES.

Nothing occurred under this head.

ARTICLE XVII.

COMPLAINTS.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, under item 9, reported a complaint to Synod by the Rev. A. Wanner, against the action of Zion's Classis in dividing his pastoral charge. The Standing Committee on Overtures, under items 2 and 7, report overtures to Synod on the same subject. The matter was referred to a special committee consisting of Revs. J. S. Kieffer, J. M. Titzel, Dr. Staley, and Elders W. Dice and E. Williard, to examine whether or not the Complaint be in order, and if found in order, report an order of trial. The Committee reported, on Monday evening, as follows, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The Committee to whom was referred the Complaint of Rev. A. Wanner against certain action of Zion's Classis, would respectfully report, that having examined the papers placed in their hands relating to said Complaint, they have found it to be in order, and accordingly recommend the following provision for the hearing and settling of it:

1. That the hearing of this Complaint be the order of the day for Tuesday morning, immediately after the opening of Synod.

2. That the papers relating to the Complaint be read.

3. That twenty minutes be allowed to the Complainant, and afterwards to the Classis, for the presentation respectively of the Complaint and defence.

4. That, thereupon, the vote be taken, in the usual way, without any debate.

Respectfully submitted,

J. S. KIEFFER, *Chairman.*

Rev. Dr. Kieffer was recognized as the attorney of the Classis in the case. At the appointed time the Complaint was taken up. On motion, the Complaint was sustained. A special committee, consisting of Revs. J. M. Titzel, Dr. Santee, T. F. Hoffmeier, and Elders G. Harbaugh and A. Raab, was appointed to give an explanation of the sense of Synod's action in sustaining the Complaint. This committee subsequently presented the following report, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee appointed to report the effect of the sustaining of the Complaint beg leave to report, that this action has made the action of the Classis as regards the reconstruction of the Rev. A. Wanner's pastoral charge null and void.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. TITZEL, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XVIII.

SUNDAY-SCHOOLS.

The Sunday-school Board submitted its annual report to the Synod, during the session of Friday morning, which was received, and its consideration was made the order of the day for Friday afternoon at three o'clock. The Report is as follows:

REPORT OF SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD.

The great and growing importance of the Sunday-school interest in our Church should challenge from this Synod careful consideration, earnest discussion, and wise and wholesome legislation. In our time, the Sunday-school

is a prominent agent in the spiritual training of the young, and it behooves the Church to see to it that the instruction coming from this source is suited and answerable for the end in view. Chief attention should be given to the lessons and helps which are needed to carry forward the instruction of the children and to indoctrinate them in the doctrines of the Bible. These should be the very best which the talent of the Church can supply. In an average Sunday-school, there is found material for at least two grades, calling for lessons and helps which are suited to them, and the Church should see to it that these wants are properly met, and the Board would call the special attention of this Synod to this interesting point in our Sunday-school work.

The Board arranged the following programme, with topics and the speakers to open the discussions: Topic I. 1. The qualifications necessary for a successful Sunday-school teacher; 2. How to prepare the lesson; 3. The best method to teach. Speakers, Revs. J. M. Titzel and B. R. Carnahan. Topic II. 1. The series of Sunday-school lessons—international or independent? 2. In what way should the lessons be prepared, so as best to meet the wants of the school and promote its prosperity? For the discussion of the first topic, the Board would ask this body to set apart Friday evening, and would recommend that the second topic be made the order of the day for Friday afternoon.

The Treasurer of the Board reports the amount of \$50.00 in hand.

Respectfully submitted,

J. W. SANTEE, *President.*

Friday evening was set apart as the time for holding the usual Sunday-school anniversary, at which time the first topic was discussed, as asked for by the Board. At the designated hour, on Friday afternoon, the second topic was taken up by the Synod, and discussed until the hour for adjournment arrived, without disposing of it. After further discussion of it, during part of the sessions of Saturday morning and Monday morning, the subject was disposed of by the adoption of the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Synod, that the Lessons used in the Sunday-schools of our Church should be in harmony with the order of the Church Year.

At the election held for members of the different Boards of the Synod, Rev. B. R. Carnahan was chosen a member of the Sunday-school Board for the term of five years, and Rev. F. F. Bahner for two years.

MEMBERS OF THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Rev. B. R. Carnahan	5 years	October, 1886.
“ Dr. Zieber	4 “	“ 1885.
Elder G. S. Griffith	3 “	“ 1884.
Rev. F. F. Bahner	2 “	“ 1883.
“ Dr. Santee	1 “	“ 1882.

ARTICLE XIX.

CHURCH GOVERNMENT.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, under item 4, reported a request from the Zion's Classis, asking for a division of said Classis into three Classes. On motion, the request was granted.

It was ordered, that the following ministers, together with the following pastoral charges form and constitute the *Gettysburg Classis*, to wit: Revs. W. K. Zieber, D. D., J. D. Zehring, M. Kieffer, D. D., A. J. Heller, J. Kretzing, W. D. Lefevre, S. F. Laury, D. U. Wolff, H. Hilbish, W. E. Krebs, and D. N. Dittmar, and the pastoral charges of Gettysburg, Conowago, Christ Church, Abbottstown, Littlestown, and East Berlin in Adams county, and Hanover, Emanuel's, and Manheim in York county. It was also ordered, that the following ministers, together with the following pastoral charges, form and constitute the *Carlisle Classis*, to wit: Revs. W. R. H. Deatrich, F. S. Lindaman, G. W. Glessner, D. D., U. H. Heilman, J. M. Mickly, A. H. Kremer, D. D., G. E. Addams, and H. T. Spangler and the pastoral charges of Carlisle, Mechanicsburg, Newburg, and Sulphur Spring in Cumberland county, and New Bloomfield, Landisburg, Zion's, and Duncannon, and St. Andrew's congregation in Perry county. The Zion's Classis to consist of the remaining ministers and pastoral charges of the Classis.

Revs. J. M. Titzel, J. W. Santee, T. F. Hoffmeier, and Elders W. Dice and A. Raab were appointed a special committee to name the place, time, and individuals to preside at the organizations of the new Classes. This committee reported as follows, which was received and adopted:

Your Committee, appointed to make arrangements for the organization of the new Classes, which Synod has formed out of the territory of Zion's Classis, beg leave to report the following for adoption:

Resolved, That the division go into effect immediately after the next annual meeting of Zion's Classis.

Resolved, That the Gettysburg Classis meet for organization in Gettysburg, Pa., on Wednesday evening, June 14th, 1882, at 8 o'clock, and that the Rev. Dr. Kieffer preside.

Resolved, That the Carlisle Classis meet for organization in Carlisle, Pa., on Wednesday evening, June 14th, 1882, at 8 o'clock, and that the Rev. Dr. Kremer preside.

Respectfully submitted,

J. M. TITZEL, *Chairman*.

The General Synod having announced that the amendment to the Constitution, allowing each District Synod to determine the basis and mode of representation of the Classes in the District Synods, had been constitutionally adopted, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That whenever the Synod of the Potomac shall meet as a delegated body, the ratio of representation of the Classes constituting the Synod shall be on the basis of one minister and one elder for every four ministers enrolled, and fractional part thereof.

ARTICLE XX.

PUBLICATION.

The following report was received from the Stated Clerk, in reference to the publication of the Minutes of the Eighth Annual meeting of Synod, and was adopted:

REPORT ON PUBLISHING MINUTES.

The undersigned begs leave to report, that he had two thousand copies of the Acts and Proceedings of the last Annual Meeting of the Synod printed and bound in pamphlet form, according to instructions, and distributed them agreeably to the rules and regulations in the case. The Minutes number nine pages more than those of the previous year, and cost \$135.00—which is the same per page as those of the former year. The work was done by the Reformed Church Publication Board, as directed.

Respectfully submitted,

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk.*

The Stated Clerk was instructed to have two thousand copies of the Minutes of the present sessions, duly authenticated, printed, and to distribute them among those entitled to receive them.

I. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REFORMED CHURCH PUBLICATION BOARD.

The Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board was received, and having been read, was referred to the Standing Committee on Publication. The Report is as follows, to wit:

Annual Report of the Board of Publication from August 1st, 1880, to July 31st, 1881.

To the Synods of the United States, the Potomac and Pittsburgh, the Board of Publication of the Reformed Church in the United States respectfully submits the following report:—

The Board during the year has held one special and three regular meetings. At each due attention was given to the interests entrusted to their charge. It takes great pleasure in reporting a continued improvement in its affairs. In all of the departments there has been an increase of receipts, and in the case of some of the Periodicals—as last year—the increase has been very decided. Only two of the latter have suffered a decrease in the number of subscribers, viz.:—*The Reformed Quarterly*, to the number of 27, and the monthly *Child's Treasury*, to the number of 490, less than last year, whilst in the others, the increase over all discontinuances is very considerable, showing a gradual and permanent gain. The following is the excess of additions over discontinuances in each case: *Messenger*, 276; *Guardian*, 249; *Child's Treasury*, (semi-monthly), 674; *Sunshine*, 932; and *Lesson Papers*, 1768. In the case of the *Messenger* it may be remembered that the number of subscribers it now has, is for the double sheet alone, so that in comparing the number of subscribers with that of last year, we find the increase is all told a small fraction over one thousand (1000). Also in the case of the *Child's Treasury*, whilst there has been a decrease in the number of subscribers for the *Monthly*, there has been a corresponding increase in those of the *Semi-monthly*.

In the Book Department, as a whole, there is an improvement. There seems to be a more general disposition on the part of the ministers and members of the Church to give it their patronage. And this they certainly owe to it, since it is the establishment of the Church, and, that not for the benefit pecuniarily of any particular individuals, but for that of the Church. There is still, we are sorry to say, a disposition on the part of too many to give their patronage to outside parties and ignore altogether the claims of their own Publication House. The Board would here emphatically reiterate the fact, that it has the ability and facilities for supplying any book or books at the same rates at which they can be had at any other house. Nothing, verily, is

saved to the parties thus giving their orders to other houses, whilst it is that much gain to our own house, if they favor it with them. During the year, 31,850 copies of books, &c., were printed for this department.

The usual Committee to whom is assigned the special duty of taking an account of stock and investigating the financial condition of the establishment, was appointed. They attended to their duty and submitted the following report, which was adopted:—

“Brethren of the Board of Publication :

“Your Committee appointed to take account of stock and report upon the assets and liabilities of the Board, respectfully offer the following. We find the Book department in good condition. We still have a considerable amount of unsaleable stock on hand, on much of which we place no estimated value. There is also some of the stock that has depreciated in value, which we reduced accordingly in our estimate of assets.

After throwing out all stock as valueless upon which we could not realize at once, and deducting for depreciation of stock and all bad or doubtful accounts, we find the *Assets* to be in sum total \$42,949 47

Real Estate 35,000 00

\$77,949 47

Liabilities, \$34,434 48

Mortgage, 20,000 00

54,434 48

Excess of assets \$23,514 99

We are glad to be able to say that our expenses are now fully within our own income, and that the prospects are, we will be able gradually to reduce our liabilities even after paying the heavy amount of interest to be met annually on mortgage and loans.

All our Periodicals are now self-sustaining, and some of them pay a handsome profit, which meets the interest account.

The wholesale department of the Book Store is also paying well, but the retail department falls considerably short of expenses, if we count reasonable rent for store room on second floor.

Through the energy of our attorney, Daniel H. Wingerd, Esq., a large amount has been collected on old accounts. We heartily recommend that the good work be continued without respect to persons, until all the old accounts be collected up.

The outlook is very encouraging, if the Synods will allow us to go forward in our own way, and our ministers and members will give us their confidence and patronage.

J. W. LOVE,
A. B. WINGERD, } Committee.
GEO. GELBACH,

Whilst it is the pleasure of the Board to report thus encouragingly of the interests under its charge, it is made to have feelings of sadness, when it here chronicles the fact that ere its present financial year had reached its close, its Superintendent and Treasurer, Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, D.D., was stricken down in the midst of his labors, and called up higher. Though death met him far from his home and the scene of his many years labor for the Church, he fell at his post of duty. It may well be said, that the present encouraging condition of the affairs of the Board, is mainly owing to his untiring energy and pronounced business qualifications, not to say, to his life-long devotion and unselfish interest in the Publication affairs of the Church he loved so well, and for which he labored so abundantly. Verily, the Church will never know how much he has done and sacrificed in this particular, and

owes him a great debt of gratitude for whatever she has to-day in the way of Publication interests. He closed his earthly career in the 72d year of his age, on Whitsunday (June 5th), 1881, in Tiffin, Ohio, whither he had gone to attend the meeting of the General Synod. His remains were borne to Chambersburg, and deposited in the Cemetery of the Reformed Church, alongside of beloved dead, there to await the resurrection morn.

Immediately upon the announcement of the death of its Superintendent and Treasurer, the Board, at the call of its President, met at its rooms in special session, June 16, 1881. It recognized the life and character of its late Superintendent and Treasurer, by adopting the following minute:—

The Board of Publication has heard with profound sorrow of the death of Rev. Samuel R. Fisher, D. D., in Tiffin, O., on Whitsunday. His intimate and long continued association with the Church has endeared and familiarized him to the great body of its members, and his intimate and cherished relations with this Board gained for him the confidence and love of all who compose it. Identified with the ministry of his Church for nearly fifty (50) years, and connected with its Publication interests for more than forty (40) years, the Church most sensibly felt and keenly appreciated his usefulness as pastor, preacher, editor and manager of its publications. Even "in a good old age," "his eye was not dim, nor his natural force abated." "He died in his harness," while engaged upon an important work for the Church, which, if he had been spared to complete, would have crowned his life of useful industry.

"As a shock of corn cometh in his season," has he been gathered by the Great Harvester to his eternal reward. "Neither shall his place know him any more on earth," but on the records of the Church, and in the hearts of its members, his memory shall be unfading. Where dwell the just made perfect, is the spirit of our dead brother and friend.

The Board at the same time requested the Rev. T. G. Apple, D. D., to fill the place of Synodical Editor of the Eastern Synod, made vacant by the death of Rev. S. R. Fisher, D. D., until the next meeting of the Synod.

The Board also appointed Rev. Chas. G. Fisher, who had been his father's assistant for the past fifteen months, as its Superintendent and Treasurer until the meeting of Synods. Hence the business of the Board has gone on without any interruption and with usual care and attention, as the annual statement accompanying this report will show.

The Board, as has been mentioned in the report of the Committee of the Board, has been able to collect a goodly portion of its outstanding dues, and in this particular much is due to the Attorney of the Board, Daniel H. Wingerd, Esq. The Board has directed the Superintendent to push the matter of collections, so as to bring its business more and more to a cash basis.

The General Agent, H. K. Binkley, has met with signal success in adding to the number of subscribers to "*The Messenger*" during the year. The Board asks for him the earnest and hearty co-operation of the brethren of the Church, whose charges he may visit from time to time in the prosecution of the work he has undertaken—a work that concerns the whole Church.

The Board during the year accepted the resignation of Rev. A. C. Whitmer, as Editor of the "*Child's Treasury*," and appointed Rev. R. L. Gerhart, as his successor, who has already entered on his duties.

The Board has resolved to issue during the coming year, two (2) grades of Lesson Papers—Advanced and Primary. In order to have a uniform and satisfactory series of Lessons and Comments for the Church, the Board would respectfully ask the Synods to allow it to see to the editing and preparation of the same for the coming year.

At the Special Meeting of the Board held last June, it was informed of the disposal made by its late Superintendent and Treasurer, in his last will and Testament, of his original investment and advances as Treasurer, viz.: "that if the Board so wished, \$15,000.00 of the sum total should remain for the use

of the Board for 15 years, provided, good security should be given for its payment at the end of that period and that the interest be regularly paid." The Board by way of arriving at a settlement with the Executor of the Estate—as to the actual amount due said estate, found it to be—up to June 16th, 1881, principal and interest, \$17,886.66.

In the same will, the late Superintendent, devises to the Board of Publication, the Stereotype plates and Copyrights of his books published by the Board, viz.: "Exercises on Heidelberg Catechism," "Heidelberg Catechism Simplified," and "Family Assistant."

Among the liabilities of the Board were two notes amounting to \$2,900.00, held by the Estate of Mrs. N. Fisher, dec'd, of which Hon. John Cessna is Administrator. The Administrator having informed the Board by letter that it was his desire to settle up the estate as soon as possible, the Board made provisions for the immediate payment of the same, by making a loan through a note for four (4) months, thrown in bank, endorsed by individual members of the Board. The Board would respectfully request the Synods to make arrangements for providing the Board with funds sufficient to cancel the loan thus made when it becomes due, in the usual proportions from each Synod.

The term of service of D. W. Gross, one of the Trustees from the Synod of the United States, and that of Rev. J. W. Love, from the Synod of Pittsburgh, will expire on Jan. 1st, 1882. Hence it will devolve upon these two Synods to fill the vacancies that will thus occur in the Board at their Annual Sessions.

D. W. GROSS, *President*.

CHAS. G. FISHER, *Secretary pro tem*.

Philadelphia, Sept. 27th, 1881.

II. REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PUBLICATION.

The Standing Committee on Publication reported, during the session of Monday evening, their report being received, considered item by item, and then adopted as a whole. The report is as follows:

To the Synod of the Potomac :

Your Standing Committee on Publication would offer the following report.

We have had placed in our hands but one document, namely, the Annual Report of the Reformed Church Publication Board, which we have carefully considered, and in reference to which we offer the following resolutions, as covering the action required by this Synod.

Resolved, That we heartily rejoice at the encouraging prospects and the favorable financial showing of the Board, at this time, as presented in its annual report.

Resolved, That we earnestly recommend to the Classes, ministers and elders within the bounds of this Synod to make every effort to introduce the publications of the Board as speedily as possible into all the families of the Church.

Resolved, That we earnestly commend the book-store of the Board to the patronage of our ministers and people.

Resolved, That whilst this Synod would have preferred to continue the arrangements heretofore existing between the three Synods, in regard to the preparation of Sunday-School Lessons and Comments for the use of our Church, yet we acquiesce in the overture of the Board, allowing them to see to the preparation of these Lessons themselves, but hoping that in doing so they will have due regard to the express wishes of this Synod in regard to the nature and character of these Lessons.

Resolved, That we recognize in the death of the Rev. S. R. Fisher, D.D., the late Superintendent and Treasurer of the Board, a mysterious Providence, and

a sad bereavement to our Church, that we are grateful to the divine Head of the Church for the eminent services rendered to our Reformed Zion by the departed servant of God, and that we shall ever cherish his name and memory as a precious legacy to the Church.

Resolved, That this Synod has no suggestions to offer in regard to the indebtedness of the Board to the estate of Rev. Dr. Fisher, deceased, but leaves this matter entirely to the management of the Board.

Resolved, That this Synod assume \$1000.00 of the amount due by the Board to the estate of Mrs. Naomi Fisher, deceased, and that this amount be apportioned by the Committee on Finance among the several Classes composing the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

W. RUPP, *Chairman*.

The following resolution was subsequently adopted:

Resolved, That this Synod approves of the election of Rev. C. G. Fisher by the Board of Publication as its Superintendent and Treasurer.

The Standing Committee on Minutes of Synod reported, under item 15, the continuance of the Committee to prepare and publish, conjointly with a similar Committee from the Synod of the Reformed Church in the United States, an edition of "Hymns for the Reformed Church," *with music*,—with special instructions to have the same published at the earliest practicable time.

The Committee, through its chairman, presented the following report, which was received and adopted. The report is as follows:

To the Reverend Synod of the Potomac:

Your Committee on music for the new Hymn-book has finished its work so far as the selection of music is concerned; and by a joint-session of the Committees of the two Synods, the whole work could be soon ready for the hands of the printer. Such a joint-session was suggested, but the Chairman of the Committee of the Synod of the U. S. thought it would be time lost to hold such a session before the General Synod had met and acted upon the whole subject. The General Synod has met, and your committee deems it proper now to leave the decision of what shall be done to the Synod itself. If the Synod so directs, the committees can go on and publish the work and furnish it to the Synod within the coming Synodical year. If the Synod, however, desire to throw the whole matter into the hands of the General Synod, this report can be regarded as final, and the committee discharged. Whatever action may be taken, it would be well to inform the Synod of the U. S., to secure if possible its concurrence.

Respectfully submitted,

E. E. HIGBEE, *Chairman*.

[P. S.—*Potomac Synod in acc. with E. E. HIGBEE, Chairman.*

DR.

To 1 trip to Frederick	\$3 50
" Lancaster	6 50

Total	\$10 00
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On motion, the Treasurer of Synod was ordered to pay the bill of expenses.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLICATION BOARD AND TERMS OF SERVICE.

Elder Goldsboro S. Griffith	2 years	1883.
" Adam B. Wingerd	1 year	1882.

ARTICLE XXI.

MISCELLANEOUS.

During the session of Monday forenoon, the Standing Committee on Nominations presented their report, which was received and adopted. The Chairman of the Committee was instructed to have two hundred tickets of these nominations printed for the use of the Synod, and the election was made the order of the day for Monday evening, at the opening of the session. At the time designated the election took place. Revs. N. H. Skyles and H. S. Garner, and Elders E. Williard and J. Seibert were appointed tellers, who received the ballots, counted the votes, and furnished the President with the result of the election. This result will be found elsewhere, in connection with the action of Synod on the Reports of the Boards of Education, Regents of Mercersburg College, Missions, Trustees of Synod, and Sunday-schools.

The Standing Committee on Overtures, under item 5, reported a statement of Bethany Orphans' Home at Womelsdorf, Pa., from the President of the Board of Managers and the Superintendent, presenting the condition and wants of said institution. The item was referred to a special committee, consisting of Revs. W. Rupp, A. J. Whitmore, R. R. Smith, and Elders J. R. Lantz and G. L. Freet. This committee, during the session of Tuesday morning, submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, viz. :—

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON BETHANY ORPHANS' HOME.

To the Synod of the Potomac :

Your special committee, to whom was referred the Annual Statement of the Board of Managers of Bethany Orphans' Home, would respectfully report, that they have examined said statement, and find that the Home is in a prosperous condition. The last cash payment of \$4000.00 was made during the year, leaving now only a floating debt of \$2800.00. The number of orphans in the Home at present is 66. The farm connected with the Home has yielded encouraging crops. But the Board regrets that the contributions to the Home, during the past year, were not as large as in previous years, in consequence of which but a small proportion of the fatherless applicants can be received.

Your committee would offer the following resolutions for adoption :

Resolved, That we renewedly commend the cause of the orphans to the charity and benevolence of our people.

Resolved, That Sunday-schools, and congregations, within the bounds of this Synod, are requested to donate their Christmas offerings to Bethany Orphans' Home.

Respectfully submitted,

W. RUPP, *Chairman*.

The following preamble and resolution were reiterated :

WHEREAS, The Society for the Relief of Disabled Ministers and the

Widows of Ministers of the Reformed Church is a subject of the greatest importance and interest to the ministry; and

WHEREAS, Disabled Ministers and Widows of Ministers are multiplying annually; therefore,

Resolved, That the Synod commends this Society to the favorable consideration of the churches, and requests the Classes within its bounds to order a collection for the benefit of the Society to be lifted in our churches, on or about the third Sunday in June next.

On motion, the several Classes and pastoral charges of the Synod, still delinquent in their apportionments for the Washington Mission Chapel, were earnestly urged to take immediate steps to raise and pay over the several amounts apportioned on them and still remaining unpaid.

The following resolution was adopted, in answer to the request of Rev. H. Miller, contained in item 10 of the Committee on Overtures:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Synod, that the manner of raising funds for congregational and benevolent purposes should be left to the judgment of pastors and consistories.

An assessment of twenty-five cents was laid upon each member of Synod to meet the necessary incidental expenses of the sessions of the Synod. Elders E. Williard, C. A. Shultz, and A. Kieffer were appointed a committee to collect said assessment. The committee reported as follows, which was received and adopted:

The committee appointed by the Synod to collect the assessment upon each member of Synod, begs leave to report, that the duty has been attended to, the amount collected being \$31.00, which has been handed over to the pastor loci, as directed by the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

E. WILLIARD, *Chairman*.

In regard to the requests of the Portland-Oregon Classis, contained in items 7 and 8 of the Report of the Standing Committee on Minutes of Classes, it was, on motion,

Resolved, That the Synod cannot comply with the request of the Portland-Oregon Classis, to establish a German Professorship in the Theological Seminary at Lancaster, Pa., at present.

Resolved, That the Synod cannot release the Portland-Oregon Classis from paying the very small apportionment of only \$25.00, believing as we do that mission congregations ought to contribute something, however small it may be, to the benevolent objects of the Church.

Revs. C. Cort, M. L. Firor, C. J. Musser, H. T. Spangler, and J. David Miller were appointed a committee to report the proceedings of Synod for the public press. The committee submitted the following report, which was received and adopted, to wit:

The committee, appointed to report for the public press, beg leave to submit the following: Your committee reported for daily papers in Hagerstown, Bal-

timore, Harrisburg, Lancaster and Altoona a full abstract of important proceedings and of many speeches. Our expenses for postage and stationery amount to \$1.40, which has been paid out of the special collection taken up by the Synod.

Respectfully submitted,

C. COBT, *Chairman*.

The following preamble and resolutions were adopted :

WHEREAS, What is known as Speculative Life Insurance prevails to a great extent over certain portions of the territory embraced in this Synod ; and

WHEREAS, Such business is and can be only evil in its character and influence, by its very nature leading, in many cases, to murder in heart, and in some sections of our country has led to murder in deed ; therefore,

Resolved, That this Synod warns all the people committed to its care against engaging in this immoral traffic.

Resolved, That this action be published in the *Messenger* and in the *Christian World*, and that the pastors of this Synod be requested to read the same from their pulpits.

On Friday afternoon, a committee was appointed with power to grant leave of absence, consisting of Revs. J. Kretzing, W. A. Gring, B. R. Carnahan, and Elders G. Rosen and H. Winebrenner. The committee, just before final adjournment, reported as follows, which was received and adopted :

The Committee on Leave of Absence would report, that they granted leave of absence to the following members of Synod, to wit : Rev. C. F. Sontag after Friday's sessions ; Rev. S. F. Laury, and Elders G. S. Brodbeck and E. D. Zimmerman after Saturday morning's session ; Revs. Dr. Miller, Dr. Weisz, A. Spangler, A. J. Whitmore, C. S. Slagle, H. F. Long, and Elders G. Hollinger, J. R. Lantz, G. Rosen, J. R. Pague, C. A. Woltman, and H. O. Neal after Sunday's services ; Revs. W. E. Krebs, M. H. Sangree, and S. M. Hench after Monday morning's session ; Rev. F. S. Lindaman and Elders J. P. Reed, J. Bixler, S. Onwake, H. Stine, D. Kump, and L. Rinker after Monday afternoon's session ; Rev. J. M. Mickly, H. Hilbish, and Elders R. Kearns and J. Seibert after Monday evening's session ; and Revs. J. Hassler, D. M. Whitmore, H. T. Spangler, S. L. Whitmore, and Elders S. Crist, A. Kieffer, L. H. Koch, and W. W. Lesh after 11 o'clock of Tuesday morning's session.

Respectfully submitted,

J. KRETZING, *Chairman*.

During Sunday night the Stated Clerk became suddenly ill, so that he was unable to attend any of the subsequent sessions of the Synod. Rev. W. C. Cremer was appointed Secretary for the sessions of Monday and Tuesday forenoon, filling the position with acceptance.

Elder John M. Hoffman, of Baltimore, Md., became dangerously ill, whilst attending the sessions of Synod, and departed this life shortly after returning home. The Synod passed the following resolution :

Resolved, That the Synod has heard with pain of the sudden and severe sickness of Rev. Wm. M. Deatrick, our worthy Stated Clerk, and also of Elder John M. Hoffman ; and that we hereby extend to them our warmest sympathies and hearty Christian wishes and prayers for their speedy and complete recovery.

ARTICLE XXII.

MINISTERIAL NECROLOGY.

The Standing Committee on Ministerial Necrology, appointed at the last annual meeting, presented the following report, which was received and adopted :

Your committee begs leave to present the following report :—During the past Synodical year but one of our number has been removed by the hand of death from earth to heaven. Rev. John H. Sykes, of the Mercersburg Classis, suddenly and unexpectedly departed this life on the 10th day of November last, less than a month after the last meeting of the Potomac Synod, whose sessions he attended, and in whose deliberations he took an active part. He died at the house of one of his elders, with whom he was tarrying for a night, and was buried on the 13th of November. Brother Sykes was a native of Yorkshire, England, and born of Christian parents, November 5th, 1834. His age was 46 years and 5 days.

Early in life he became a member of the Church of England. Soon after attaining his majority, he emigrated to this country, and for a time engaged in teaching in Northampton county, Pa. Under the ministry of the late Rev. Dr. Becker, his doctrinal views underwent considerable modification, and he became connected with the Reformed Church. Desirous of consecrating his life to the work of the Holy Ministry, in the spring of 1858, he was taken under the care of the East Pennsylvania Classis, and entered upon a course of study preparatory to the sacred office, in the Allentown Seminary, under the direction of Rev. Wm. R. Hofford, A. M. Here he gave evidence of more than ordinary intellectuality, and employed his time to the best advantage.

In the spring of 1863, Brother Sykes was licensed to preach the gospel, and was ordained to the ministry, and installed as pastor of the Reformed Church in South Easton, on the 28th of May, 1864. His second field of labor was the Somerset charge, Somerset county, Pa., to which he was called in the spring of 1866. In 1867, he removed to Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland county, Pa., having accepted an appointment to a professorship in Westmoreland College, located at that place. Subsequently, on the resignation of the President of that institution, he was elected to the vacant position. Here he labored with his usual zeal and fidelity, and made many sacrifices in the interest of education and the Church. In the fall of 1868, he removed to Martinsburg, Blair county, Pa., having accepted a call from that charge. On the 17th of December, 1873, he was installed as pastor of the Woodcock Valley charge, in Huntingdon county, Pa. In March, 1877, he commenced his ministry in the Greencastle charge, from the labors of which, it pleased the Great Head of the Church, in His own way and time, to call His servant to his rest and reward.

The ministry of Bro. Sykes embraces a period of nearly eighteen years, and is characterized throughout by great earnestness and fidelity. As a preacher and pastor, he served the people in his several charges with acceptance, and, as a consequence, his ministerial career was one of usefulness and success.

"Blessed are the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth : Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors ; and their works do follow them."

Respectfully submitted,

I. S. WEISZ, *Chairman.*

ARTICLE XXIII.

RESUMPTION AND CLOSE.

The following resolutions were moved and unanimously adopted :

Resolved, That the Synod of the Potomac returns its hearty thanks to the pastors and members of Trinity and St. Paul's Reformed Churches of Waynes-

boro, and other citizens of the place, for having so hospitably entertained its members and advisory members, during our stay in their midst; and that said pastors be requested to read this action to their respective congregations, as well as have it published in the papers of Waynesboro.

Resolved, That the Stated Clerk be instructed to tender the thanks of this Synod to the Western Maryland, the Mont Alto, the Baltimore and Cumberland Valley, and the Cumberland Valley Railroads for carrying the members of Synod over their respective roads, at reduced rates.

The Synodical Roll was then called, and none were found absent without permission or excuse.

The minutes were then read finally and approved, and ordered to be engrossed.

ARTICLE XXIV.

ADJOURNMENT.

The following resolutions were adopted, during the session of Tuesday morning, to wit:

Resolved, That the next annual meeting of the Synod be in *General Convention*.

Resolved, That when we adjourn finally, it be to meet in Christ Reformed Church of Altoona, Blair county, Pa., on Wednesday evening, October 11th, A. D. 1882, at 7:30 o'clock.

The Synod adjourned finally on Tuesday at noon, October 25th, with repeating the Apostles' Creed; joining in the Lord's Prayer, singing the doxology, and Apostolic benediction by the President.

I. G. BROWN, *President*.

WM. M. DEATRICK, *Stated Clerk*.

Official copy from the original Minutes.

WM. M. DEATRICK, STATED CLERK.

CLASSIS OF ZION.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd	Baptisms		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. S. Sch's.	Stud. for Ministry.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.			
				Inf'ts	Adults									Benav. Pulp.	Confr. Pulp.				
Daniel Riegel,	2 Dillsburg,	276	57	12				179	3		11	2	85	\$30 00		Dillsburg, York County, Pa.			
Jacob Ziegler,	1 Without charge,	355	275	25	1	32	4	325	8		8	2	485	530 00	\$2268 00	York, York			
Jacob O. Miller, D. D.,	1 Fisher Ch., York & vicinity															York, York			
Daniel Gring,	1 Without charge,	365	360	42	1	13	9	300	6		18	1	275	689 00	1426 00	York, York			
William K. Zieber, D. D.,	2 Mechanicsburg,	296	171	15	7	18	1	290	5		4	13	2	316	1300 00	Hanover, York			
Wm. R. H. Deatrich,	2 Without charge,													87 00		Mechanicsburg, Cumber. do			
Jacob D. Zehring,	3 Trinity,	309	248	60	11	1	228				3	12	8	55 00	1967 00	Codorus, York			
Reinhart R. Smith,	3 York Springs,	250	170	20	1	1	2	193			10	1	100	37 00	480 00	York, York			
Aaron Warner, D. D.,	1 Zion's Church, (York)	450	240	41	1	30	8	250			19	1	150	156 00	1100 00	York, York			
Aaron Spangler,	4 Zion's,	400	250	32	1	16	7	356	4		5	6	200	137 00	1300 00	Blann, Perry			
Franco S. Lindaman,	5 Mt. Pleasant,	150	100	22	1	5	120	3			3	9	5	21 89	300 00	Felton, York,			
Reuben Rabauser,	4 Paradise,	850	540	84	3	28	9	784	12		35	9	400	350 00	1700 00	York, York			
Israel S. Weiss, D. D.,	2 Gettysburg,	353	225	27	2	10	6	325	5		3	5	1	130	190 00	Gettysburg, Adams			
Moses Kieffer, D. D.,	4 Conowingo,	470	300	22	5	23	4	440	2		13	4	250	149 55	1435 00	Arendtsville, Adams			
Andrew J. Heller,	3 Without charge,	279	215	10	1	14	3	213	6		4	3	300	129 00	1100 00	Shippensburg, Cumb.,			
George W. Glessner, D. D.,	3 New Bloomfield,	125	100	18				90			4	2	150	100 00	500 00	Newport, Perry			
John Kretzing,	3 Duncannon,	125	82	8	3	13	7	118	6		4	1	135	40 00	630 00	Duncannon, Perry			
U. Henry Heimann,	1 Newburg,	190	90	21	6	21	2	121	6		3	4	205	29 50	750 00	Newburg, Cumberland			
J. Marion Micky,	3 Kretz Creek,	205	170	4	3	10	2	175	2		2	1	150	41 00	1500 00	Red Lion, York			
E. Garver Williams,	1 Carlisle,	202	156	10	2	14	3	160	1		2	1	235			Carlisle, Cumberland			
Amos H. Kreuer, D. D.,	1 Heidelberg,													1100 00		York, York			
Fred. J. Sauerber,	2 Without charge,															Littletown, Adams			
Wm. D. Leferer,	4 Missionary to Japan,	169	82	6	1	1	5	143	4		5	4	120	134 00	1865 75	Tokio, Japan.			
Ambrose D. Gring,	4 Sulphur Spring,	54	34	7	3	5	37	4			8	1	128	10 00	180 00	Carlisle, Cumberland			
Geo. E. Adams,	1 Trinity Mission,	815	652	56	3	32	2	773	2		43	9	600	153 00	747 00	York, York			
Wm. H. Xanders,	4 Emanuel's,	420	300	29	4	67	28	370	2		7	20	1	33 00	2000 00	Codorus, York			
Silas F. Laury,	3 Abbottstown,	516	195	38	2	69	4	482			16	4	265	75 40	2150 00	New Oxford, Adams			
David U. Wolf,	4 Manheim,	333	198	7	1	13	4	248	5		8	6	295	224 00	1308 00	Hanover, York			
Henry Hilbish,	4 Landisburg,	443	296	23	1	21	2	381			20	4	272	20 00	683 00	Landisburg, Perry			
H. T. Spangler,	4 Shrewsbury,	216	198	8		3	163	5			21	2	1	50 00	550 00	Shrewsbury, York			
A. F. Dreisbach,	1 Littletown,	650	245	3			420	3			12	2	200	5 00	350 00	Littletown, Adams			
A. N. Dittmar,	2 Without charge,	160	100		15		100				2	75				do			
D. N. Dittmar,	2 Christ Church,	19	20				18				4	3	155	37 00	440 00	do			
Walter E. Krebs,	2 East Berlin,	142	92	13	16	128	1									do			
Vacant,	1 St. Andrew's Cong.,															East Berlin, do			
Sup. by Rev. A. Wanner,	2 Mt. Zion and Christ Cong's.	9598	6101	663	50	408	120	7924	95		38	310	01	6311	5	2434	40	500	500
Total		33																	

CLASSIS OF MARYLAND.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch's.	Min. Stud.	Contributions.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
Cong.				Inf's.	Adults									Purv.	Cong'l Purp.	
Joseph W. Santee, D. D.,	4 Caretown.	405	230	14	1	13	1	375	1	2	4	225	\$106 00	\$2200 00	Caretown, Washington Co., Md.	
George L. Staley, D. D.,	1 Without Charge,	565	415	36	1	31	11	463	9	11	20	1	1759 00	2838 00	Knoxville, Frederick	
Edmund R. Echbach, D. D.	1 Evangelical Reformed,	181	80	7	2	6	1	180	1	3	2	150	195 00	1400 00	Frederick, do	
William Goodrich,	2 Clearspring,	173	126	7	2	4	1	160	10	6	2	160	150 00	800 00	Clearspring, Washington	
Simon S. Miller,	2 Boonsboro,	285	197	19	3	20	11	275	3	17	2	275	438 00	1400 00	Boonsboro, do	
J. Spangler Kiefer,	2 Hagerstown,	122	68	10	3	10	6	108	4	10	18	2	75 00	500 00	Hagerstown, do	
Mortimer L. Shuford,	1 Burkittsville,	350	390	34	2	10	6	295	5	10	18	2	310 00	1300 00	Burkittsville, Frederick	
P. Allison Long,	4 Taneytown,	355	125	24	22	8	307	4	4	10	1	292	179 00	2500 00	Taneytown, Carroll	
Joel T. Rossiter,	1 First Reformed,	300	250	17	3	3	295	3	1	8	4	225	69 00	672 00	Jefferson, Frederick	
Nehemiah H. Skyles,	5 Mechanicstown,	322	270	24	1	13	283	1	10	4	185	185	455 00	1000 00	Middletown, do	
Henry Wiesler,	1 Middletown,	200	70	5	5	18	5	185	2	6	3	200	130 00	800 00	Keedyville, Washington	
T. Franklin Hoffmeier,	3 Mt. Moriah,	378	230	29	1	15	1	306	4	14	1	253	295 00	1337 00	Westminster, Carroll	
Ambrose C. Geary,	4 Westminster,	824	605	57	4	30	15	548	15	18	4	390	35 00	407 00	Mt. Pleasant, Fred.,	
John G. Ness,	4 Manchester,	125	65	9	2	10	2	104	4	3	2	145	122 00	1450 00	Manchester, Carroll	
Anthony Shulenberger,	1 Christ's Church,	466	365	24	1	11	2	409	4	10	4	250	9 00	593 00	Hagerstown, Washing'tn,	
William Rupp,	1 St. Paul's Ref. (Eng.),	98	67	7	2	4	8	92	1	1	2	106	75 00	2250 00	278 W. Lexington St., Balto.,	
Leighton G. Kremer,	1 Third Reformed,	155	66	6	29	9	144	1	1	2	1	250	322 00	5316 00	Baltimore, do	
Marion L. Frior,	4 Glade,	280	125	14	3	19	13	260	4	4	1	250	146 00	3065 00	Walkersville, Frederick	
Conrad Clever,	1 Grace Ref. Mission,	345	264	28	1	14	1	251	4	9	4	266	107 00	1550 00	Washington, D. C.	
Silas M. Hench,	2 Emmitsburg,	54	35	3	3	14	1	39	1	2	1	43	107 00	1550 00	Emmitsburg, Frederick	
Charles F. Sontag,	Prison Chaplain,	379	335	32	12	1	298	5	5	2	65	65			Baltimore, do	
Wm. A. Gring,	Without charge,														Middletown, Frederick	
Jonas R. Shontz,	do														Frederick City, do	
H. W. Hoffmeier,	do														Emmitsburg, do	
W. F. Colliflower,	do														Harrisburg, Pa.	
J. B. Kerchner,	Licentiate,														Hagerstown Md.	
George M. Zacharias,	do															
Henry E. Cook,																
Total, 28.	52	6362	4378	403	34	208	99	5377	85	26	178	47	4495	334997	00\$34,818 00	

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconfr'd		Confirmed	Certificate	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Broom.	Deaths.	S. S. Repts.	S. S. Min- istry.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
			Infant	Adults									Benev'n'l purposes.	Cong'nal purposes.		
William M. Deatrick, Isaac G. Brown, George R. Zacharias, Albert G. Dole, Elias D. Shoemaker, Ellis N. Kremer, Milton H. Sangree, Henry Miller, Jacob Hassler, David M. Whitmore Frederick A. Rupley, Frederick A. Stewart Isaac M. Motter, William C. Cremer, Franklin F. Bahner, Henry F. Long, J. David Miller, Henry S. Garner, Cyrus H. Reier, Isaac N. Peightel, J. Alvin Reber, Daniel H. Leader, Simon Wolf, John M. Titzel. William H. Herber*, George B. Russell, D.D., Cyrus J. Muster, Cyrus Cort, Calvin S. Slagle, Vacant, " " " " George F. Mull, John M. North, Edgar S. Hassler, Albert A. Black.	Without charge, Mercersburg, Disolved, Huntingdon, Disabled, Bedford, Waterstreet, Superannuated, 2 Loudon: supply, 3 Friend's Cove, 1 Clover Creek; supply. 3 St. Thomas, 2 Mont Alto, 1 Chambersburg, 4 Waynesboro, 4 Greenfield, 2 Martinsburg, 3 Schellsburg, 4 Woodcock Valley, 2 Yellow Creek, 3 McConnellsburg, 5 Everett, 3 Hickory Bottom, 1 Altoona, 3 Grindstonehill, Without charge, 4 St. Clairsville, 1 Greencastle, Donni- g's Cr. ck., 1 Shippensburg, 3 Sulphur Spring, 3 Orbisonia, 1 St. John's, Chamb., 1 Middleburg, Licentiate, do do do	354 360 320 357 135 247 152 184 170 309 412 412 275 330 183 225 179 345 176 426 226 162 169 114 65 62 70	332 85 239 200 78 200 78 182 105 225 270 395 195 175 112 142 77 257 84 311 150 80 173 87 57 45 4600	8 14 18 20 7 21 8 10 10 13 22 38 12 25 7 3 15 12 47 9 3 21 9 1 2 5	7 26 21 6 9 3 5 10 3 13 22 38 8 9 4 8 11 15 25 2 1 9 9 5 2 4	9 331 345 285 339 120 219 140 162 136 245 296 396 224 176 311 177 110 185 174 18 6 336 205 140 136 91 45 56	6 12 4 12 2 9 2 9 9 10 5 13 14 2 7 6 7 4 3 3 1 5 160	8 4 9 14 3 2 6 3 2 1 19 3 6 12 5 2 19 7 2 3 3 4 12 2 9 7 2 1 1	196 220 160 196 120 200 85 157 260 282 271 216 40 228 140 130 155 240 160 271 90 105 106 75 40 90 271 4518	\$431 34 125 15 473 15 459 00 51 29 633 79 115 00 109 33 590 00 286 66 154 00 80 00 112 22 76 02 150 72 590 00 22 72 343 75 50 00 243 72 55 69 190 00 77 00 65 00 59 73 54 72 23 00 4 38	\$1339 90 1000 00 1345 38 1104 50 900 00 760 00 375 00 502 46 2025 00 1087 72 2565 00 670 00 911 56 616 33 625 00 510 00 343 75 600 00 572 00 1350 00 2145 00 750 00 1022 00 800 00 503 00 595 44 180 00 135 00	Mercersburg, do Upper Strasburg, Huntingdon Bedford, do Alexandria, Huntingdon Waynesboro, Franklin Mercersburg, Charlestown, Martinsburg, Blair St. Thomas, Franklin Waynesboro, do Waynesboro, do Clayburg, Blair Martinsburg, do Schellsburg, Bedford James Creek, Huntingdon Pattonville, Bedford McConnellsburg, Fulton Everett, Bedford Martinsburg, Blair Altoona, Chambersburg, do Waynesboro, St. Clairsville, Bedford Franklin Greencastle, Bedford Shippensburg, Cumberland Man's Choice, Bedford Orbienia, Huntingdon Chambersburg, Franklin State Line, do Harri- burg, Dauphin Mercersburg, Franklin Butler, do Huntingdon, Huntingdon				
Total, 33.	29.	6710	4600	372	49	272	155	5790	117	18	180	57	95583	63	\$25834 04	

CLASSIS OF VIRGINIA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi-	Dismissed.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch's.	Students	For Min'y.	Renew.	Contributions.	Comp. Purp.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.
Geo. H. Martin, D. D.,	4 Woodstock,	420	200	15	6	21	370			4	2	100	1	1	297 00	940 00	940 00	Woodstock, Shenandoah Co., Va.
Henry St. Jon. Rinker,	1 Lovettsville,	123	99	5		2	80			1	1	60			130 00	625 00	625 00	Lovettsville, Loudon do
Sam'l N. Callender, D. D.,	2 Mt. Crawford,	212		10	2	5	190	1		3	2	125			140 00	530 00	530 00	Rockingham, Rockingham do
Henry Tallhelm,	3 Edinburg,	204	190	14	7	8	163			4	1	40			40 00	475 00	475 00	Edinburg, Shenandoah do
John C. Bowman,	1 Shepherdstown,	130	50	6	6	6	95	2		2	1	100			55 00	2500 00	2500 00	Shepherdstown, Jefferson W. Va. do
John A. Hoffheins,	1 Martinsburg,	232	79	3	9	4	195	11		3	1	180			138 37	3773 00	3773 00	Martinsburg, Berkley do
Barton R. Carnahan,	4 Mill Creek,	252	114	31	2	3	227			8	1	65			55 00	685 00	685 00	Mt. Jackson, Shenandoah Co., Va. do
Samuel L. Whitmore,	2 Middlebrook,	170	80	4	2	4	135			1	2	80			43 00	500 00	500 00	Middlebrook, Augusta do
Vacant.	3 Rockingham,	247	28	1	9	16	199			5	3	100			65 00	400 00	400 00	Cross Keys, Rockingham do
Abner R. Kremer,	2 Winchester,	132	86				85					85			11 66			Winchester, Frederick do
Anderson J. Whitmore,	Mint Spring Mission,																	Mint Spring, Augusta do
John C. Hensell,	Superannuated,																	Mt. Crawford, Rockingham do
Lawrence M. Hensell,	Without charge,																	Cross Keys, do do
Joseph S. Loose,	do do																	Bridgewater, do do
Andrew J. Bowers,	do do																	Weyer's Cave, Augusta do
F. E. Vandersloot,	do do																	Herndon, Fairfax do
Ministers, 15.		2122	926	83	33	68	30	1740	15			31	14	935	\$975 03	\$10448 00		

CLASSIS OF NORTH CAROLINA.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms.		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Brethren.	Deaths.	S. S. Schol's.	Students for Min'ry.	Contributions.		POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	N. C.	
				Inf'ts.	Adults.										Benev. Purp.	Conf. Purp.			
George W. Welker,	4 Guilford,	387	212	14	1	14	1	341			8	3			\$57 86	\$445 00	Shaw's Mills,	do	
Jeremiah Ingold.	1 Hickory,	46	49					42					1	47			Hickory,	do	
Thomas Long,	4 Upper Davidson,	246	150	14	4	8	1	170				3	115	2			Salem,	do	
Jesse W. Cecil,	1 Moffitt's Grove Mission,	43						41									Thomasville,	do	
John Ingle,	3 Central Rowan,	134		8		1	4	109				3	140		10 00	350 00	Salisbury,	do	
Jacob C. Clapp,	3 Catawba,	180	87	10		13	180				4	1	70	1	75 00		Newton,	do	
M. L. Hedrick,	4 Lower Davidson,	212	111	15		3	5	208				2	3		10 70		Silver Hill,	do	
John A. Foll,	3 Lincoln,	206	104	19		12	193	4			5	8			25 00	225 00	Newton,	do	
Robt. F. Crooks	3 Grace,	141	69				140											do	
Peter M. Trexler,	2 East Rowan,	400	131	15	1	10	5	250	3		10	2	200		36 75	485 00	Hellig's Mills,	do	
G. Dietie Gurley,	2 West Rowan,	382	218	14		1	2	210	13		1	4	2	43	28 34	318 00	China Grove,	do	
Paul Barringer,	1 Concord Mission,	10														170 00	Concord,	do	
																	China Grove,	do	
Total, 12.		2307	1122	109	6	62	18	1784	20		6	36	18	615	2	\$243 65	\$1993 00		do
31																			

Supplied by Revs. J. Ingold and A. S. Vaughan.

CLASSIS OF SAN FRANCISCO.

MINISTERS	CHARGES.	Congrs.	Members.	Unconfr'd.	Baptisms	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. Schools.	S. S. Sch'rs.	Min. Stud.	Contributions.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
					Inf'rs.	Adults									Benev. Purp. ¹	Cong. Purp. ¹	
Julius Fuendeling, Conrad F. Waldecker, E. De Geller, Charles Hartman,	2 San Francisco, 1 Stockton, 1 Napa, Alameda Mission		265 93 67	665 106 45	97 19 4		22 14 2	265 70 25	14 2 2	12 3 9	10 9 9	2 1 1	537 80 31		\$ 140 00 23 00 12 00	\$2930 00 800 00 500 00	No. 29 Eleventh St., San Francis- Stockton, California. Napa City, do Alameda, West End, California.
Total, 4.		4	425	816	120		22	42	360	18	20	28	4	648	\$175 00	\$4230 00	

CLASSIS OF PORTLAND-OREGON.

MINISTERS.	CHARGES.	Members.	Unconf'd.	Baptisms	Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communi- cants.	Dismissed.	Excom.	Deaths.	S. Schols.	S. S. Sch'rs.	Min. Stud.	Contributions.	POST-OFFICE ADDRESS.	
	Cong.			Inf's.	Adults									Benev. Purp. ¹	Cong. Purp. ¹	
John Gantenbein, Jacob Muelhaupt, Julius Lange, Geo. Mechttersheimer, Albert Kruter, Frederick Ewald,	5 Portland, 3 Salem, 3 Meridian, 1 Seattle, Assistant to Rev. Gantenbein do Rev. Lange.	157 56 70 30	160 45 80 31	36 17 5		4 2 4	47 20 43	72 40 45	2	5 5 4	1 1 2	60 20 39		10 00 20 00	\$1100 00 350 00 650 00	Portland, do Salem, do Stafford, Clackamas Co., do Seattle, Washington Ter Y. do Portland, do Stafford, Clackamas Co., do Oregon.
Total, 6.	12	313	316	58		10	110	157	2	14	6	4	119	30 00	\$2100 00	

STATISTICAL SUMMARY. Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

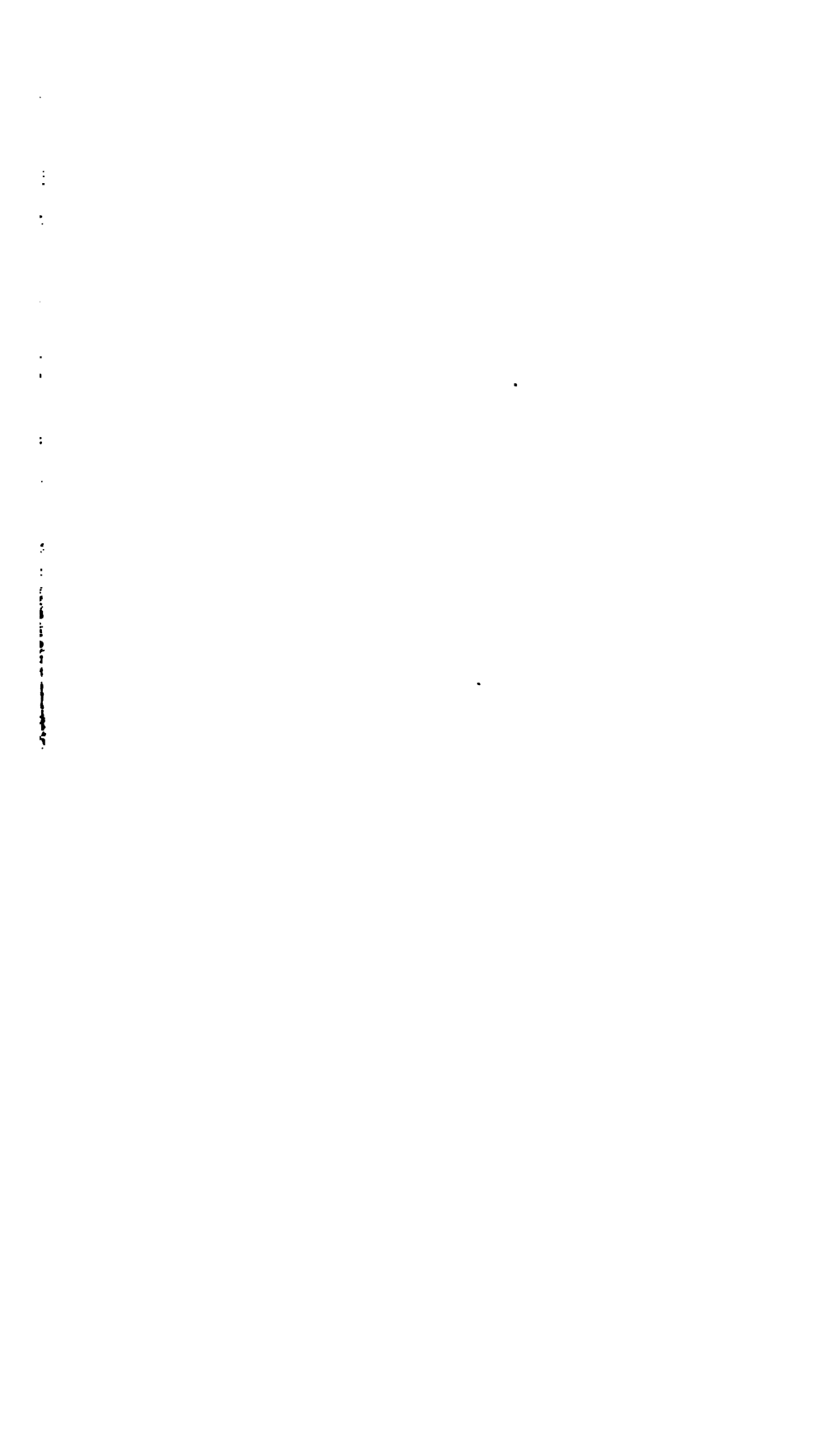
CLASSES.	Ministers.	Congregations.	Members.	Unconformed Members.	Baptisms.		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communed.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Erasures of Names.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	Sunday School Scholars.	Students for the Holy Ministry.	Contributions.	
					Infants.	Adults.											Beneficent Purposes.	Congregational Purposes.
Zion's.	33	79	9,598	6,101	683	50	496	120	7,924	95		38	310	91	6,311	5	\$3,434 40	\$26,539 75
Maryland.	28	52	6,362	4,378	403	34	298	99	5,377	85		26	178	47	4,495	3	4,997 00	34,818 00
Mercersburg.	33	70	6,710	4,600	372	49	272	155	5,790	117		18	180	57	4,518	9	5,383 63	25,334 04
Virginia.	15	23	2,122	926	83	33	68	30	1,740	15		31	31	14	935	1	975 03	10,448 00
North Carolina.	12	31	2,307	1,122	109	6	62	18	1,784	20		6	36	18	615	3	243 65	1,993 00
San Francisco.	4	4	425	816	120		22	42	360	18		20	28	4	648	1	175 00	4,030 00
Portland-Oregon.	6	12	313	316	58		10	110	157	2		14	6	4	119	1	30 00	2,100 00
Total, 7 Classes,	131	271	27,837	18,259	1,898	172	1,228	574	23,132	352		122	769	235	17,641	23	\$15,238 71	\$105,262 79
Synod of the United States, 9 Classes,	212	438	69,187	39,918	5,372	285	3,588	1,128	53,902	527	45	345	2,464	514	40,852	39	\$5,859 48	\$38,686 48
Synod of Ohio, 11 Classes,	152	302	21,673	10,323	1,099	340	1,162	724	18,003	306	38	374	414	235	17,725	19	\$9,816 00	\$14,050 00
Synod of the North West, 11 Classes,	158	250	24,196	16,996	1,851	22	1,237	828	18,122	289	16	399	641	205	14,028	33	\$2,109 22	\$9,183 00
Synod of Pittsburgh, 5 Classes,	57	125	11,594	8,541	869	66	632	410	9,912	221		138	301	103	7,770	13	\$7,249 00	\$8,271 00
German Synod of the East, 5 Classes,	41	40	9,186	5,695	1,712	7	612	391	7,471	60	4	171	391	42	6,674		\$865 00	\$9,990 00
Grand Total, 6 Dist. Synods; 48 Classes,	751	1,426	163,669	99,732	12,711	912	8,459	4,055	130,542	1,755	103	1,549	1,980	1,334	104,700	127	\$92,937 00	\$666,443 27

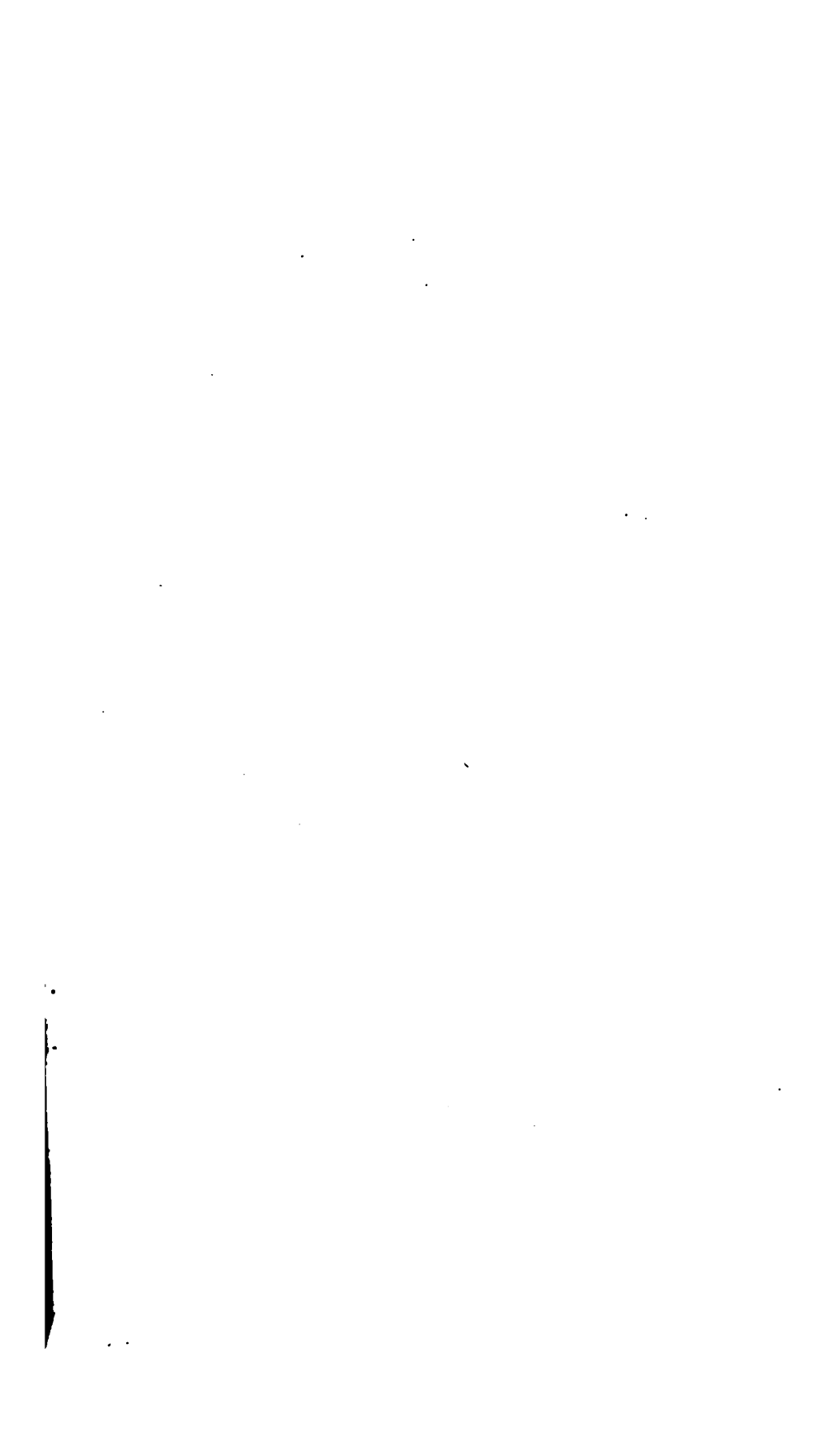
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STATISTICAL SUMMARY. Synod of the Potomac of the Reformed Church in the United States.

CLASSES.	Ministers.	Congregations.	Members.	Unconfirmed Members.	Baptisms.		Confirmed.	Certificate.	Communed.	Dismissed.	Excommunicated.	Names.	Deaths.	Sunday Schools.	Sunday School Scholars.	Students for the Holy Ministry.	Contributions.	
					Infants.	Adults.											Beneficent Purposes.	Congregational Purposes.
Zion's.	33	79	9,598	6,101	693	50	496	120	7,924	95		38	310	91	6,311	5	\$4,434 40	\$26,539 75
Maryland.	28	52	6,362	4,378	403	34	298	99	5,377	85		26	178	47	4,495	3	4,997 00	34,818 00
Mercersburg.	33	70	6,710	4,600	372	49	272	155	5,790	117		18	180	57	4,518	9	5,383 63	25,334 04
Virginia.	15	23	2,122	926	83	33	68	30	1,740	15		31	14	14	935	1	975 03	10,448 00
North Carolina.	12	31	2,307	1,122	109	6	62	18	1,784	20		6	36	18	615	3	243 65	1,993 00
San Francisco.	4	4	425	816	120		22	42	360	18		20	28	4	648	1	175 00	4,300 00
Portland-Oregon.	6	12	313	316	58		10	110	157	2		14	6	4	119	1	30 00	2,100 00
Total, 7 Classes.	131	271	27,837	18,259	1,808	172	1,228	574	23,132	352		122	769	235	17,641	23	\$15,238 71	\$105,262 79
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Synod of Pittsburgh, 5 Classes.	57	125	11,594	8,541	869	66	632	410	9,912	221		138	301	103	7,770	13	7,249 00	58,271 00
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Grand Total, 6 Dist Synods; 48 Classes.	751	1,426	163,669	99,732	12,711	912	8,459	4,055	130,542	1,755	103	1,549	4,980	1,334	104,700	127	\$92,937 00	\$666,443 27







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